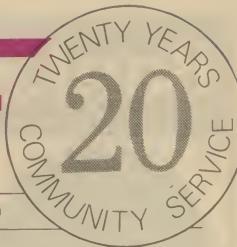


Bay Area Reporter



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Oct. 6 Testimony Questioned

Photographs Contradict Officers' Claims

by Dave Gilden

A series of photos taken by San Francisco freelance photographer Marc Geller contradict police testimony in hearings regarding the Oct. 6, 1989 sweep of the Castro.

The sweep, which closed the area down for two hours, followed a demonstration by ACT UP.

Charges that Capt. Richard Cairns struck complainant Eric Wilcox were dismissed at the request of the Office of Citizen Complaints last month.

Cairns is charged with misconduct for striking two other complainants including J.D. Taylor and Michael Barnette, who required stitches to an eyebrow laceration in that incident.

Cairns also is charged with unjustifiably hitting Bryndis Tobin and later arresting her without cause.

The Police Commission hearings resumed April 10.

Sgt. Kenneth Williams and undercover officer John Monroe have claimed to be eyewitnesses to the Barnette incident. They say Cairns was far from Barnette at the time and that Barnette was hurt when he fell off a newspaper rack that he was standing on.

Williams maintains that he was advancing with Cairns across Castro Street at the time.

Monroe claims to have been standing on the steps of the Castro Muni Metro Station, from which point he could observe Barnette fall off



Geller photo shows Capt. Richard Cairns, second from left, crouched and ready to charge into crowd.

the vending machine while looking through the crowd to see Cairns out in the street.

But Geller's photos No. 23, 24 and 25, taken moments before Barnette was injured, clearly show Williams' and Monroe's statements to be untrue.

In photo 23, Cairns, helmet and badge No. 1942, is advancing across Castro Street accompanied by Officer May, No. 708. Williams, badge No. 197, is nowhere to be seen.

Williams is not present in photo 24, either. This picture is the most important of the group as it contradicts Cairns' defense in a number of ways. Once again, Williams is absent from the scene. To Cairns' left, May is bending down with his knee pushing into the chest of protester Tate Becky. Becky, prostrate

on the ground, was then arrested.

On Cairns' right is an unidentified motorcycle sergeant who by dress and

Analysis

appearance is definitely not Sgt. Williams.

Photo 24 furthermore shows that the curbside crowd was very dense. With people standing shoulder to shoulder, it would have been impossible for Monroe to see Cairns from the Muni Metro steps. Cairns in photo 24 is crouching low next to May and is roughly four feet from the curb. He appears ready to spring at the crowd, a position previously described by prosecution witness David Lara and denied by the de-



Capt. Richard Cairns

fense.

Photo 25 depicts Cairns and the unidentified sergeant

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Inside Who Are Women Athletes Today?

Former pro basketball player answers her own questions in new book. Interview, p. 29.

Mike Hippler's Final Column

He prepared his parting words in advance, p. 11.

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Gays Get Back of Bus Treatment At Demo

by Karen Ocambo

LOS ANGELES — Of the 5,000 protesters who marched and rallied on April 7 to demand the removal of Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates, more than 100 were lesbians and gays from several organizations.

They had been invited by organizer Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-Los Angeles) to join an anti-Gates coalition comprised of groups ranging from the American Civil Liberties Union to the National Association for the



Gays and lesbians march against L.A. Police Chief Daryl Gates.
(Photo: Karen Ocambo)

Advancement of Colored People to the Street Vendors Association. However, lesbians and

gays were barely visible, with the exception of a pink triangle sign, "Gays Against

(Continued on page 12)

First of Two Sections

Domestic Partners Win Health Benefits

by Dennis Conkin

The city's Health Services Retirement Board voted April 4 to adopt the 1990-1991 Health Plan that includes health benefits eligibility for domestic partners of city workers.

"This new policy reflects the diversity of many families in San Francisco and across the nation," Mayor Art Agnos said about the plan. "While San Francisco is one of the first cities in the country to extend this benefit to domestic partners, I predict that we will not be the last."

According to Agnos aide Larry Bush, the plan allows city workers to enroll their domestic partners and dependent children in several health plans that provide care to city workers.

The city has six different forms of insured health care, including five health maintenance organizations, such as Kaiser, for workers to choose from.

The open enrollment period for domestic partners and dependent children begins in May.

Kaiser health-care insurance will cost a city worker about \$150 a month for a partner. Add one dependent and the cost is about \$220.

The HRB decision follows the 1990 recommendation of the Family Policy Task Force, chaired by Roberta Achtenberg. The FPTF conducted a survey of 2,000 city workers about their health-care needs. The Board of Supervisors must approve the package. ▼

AIDS Funds Intact After Health Dept. Budget Cuts

by Dave Gilden

With little public attention, the San Francisco Health Commission approved a second layer of 1991 budget cuts on April 9.

The proposed alterations, a mixture of revenue increases and reductions in personnel, amount to \$15 million in the half-billion-dollar city health budget. They come on top of \$12 million in similar downward adjustments approved earlier this year.

The city's fiscal crisis is developing so fast that the orig-
(Continued on page 26)

Bankruptcy



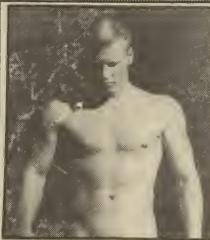
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Abbott Labs to Distribute Experimental AIDS Drug

by Dave Gilden

In a move that culminates a three-month campaign by treatment activists, Abbott Laboratories has announced that it will distribute its new antibiotic clarithromycin on a "compassionate use" basis.

Early tests have indicated that the drug could be a potent weapon against Mycobacterium avium complex, a frequent opportunistic infection with debilitating symptoms in people with advanced AIDS.

Abbott now is planning to give clarithromycin to MAC-infected individuals who don't qualify for inclusion in the drug's ongoing trials.

Abbott was under considerable public pressure from ACT UP chapters around the country before it changed its position.

Several occupations of Abbott facilities were in the works, and there were increasing calls for a boycott campaign against the company.

Abbott does an enormous business in diagnostic products, including the HIV antibody blood test.

Clarithromycin, previously available through underground sources for about \$20 for a day's dose, is smuggled in from Italy and Ireland, where it has been approved for non-MAC treatments.

Abbott also was treating about 100 European volunteers for MAC using the drug.

Meanwhile, it argued against wider distribution in the United States because of alleged uncertainties about

clarithromycin's safety is already apparent from the early studies, and Abbott has no good reason for this delay except to save money."

While arguments were still being traded in the United States, Abbott relented in Canada, agreeing to make clarithromycin available through that country's Emergency Drug Release Program to those in whom more conventional therapies were not working.

A few Canadians were set to start receiving clarithromycin in March.

Concerning the U.S., Andre Pernet, vice president of anti-infective research and development at Abbott, announced last week, "Given the encouraging results of the European studies, we have reexamined our position and believe that clarithromycin should become available under a compassionate treatment protocol. The protocol will permit use by HIV-positive individuals with clinical symptoms of MAC and a confirmed blood culture for MAC, who are not candidates for the controlled clinical trials."

Pernet also pointed to the data from a preliminary U.S. study, which he said only became available March 22, that dispelled the fear that clarithromycin together with AZT might have serious toxic

(Continued on page 24)

the safety of long-term, large-dose administration of clarithromycin in people with deficient immune systems.

Activists have had a very dim view of Abbott's motives in the controversy. Responding to Abbott's position, an exasperated Scott Slutsky of ACT UP/NY said, "Clar-



Lazy Days

Those lucky enough to be off work enjoy the warm sunny weather at Dolores Park.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

No to Candy-Coated Condoms

United Press International

NEW YORK — Candy-coated condoms, manufactured in Britain and marketed by a Long Island company, have failed to win approval by the federal Food and Drug Administration, a spokesman says.

Herman Janiger, of the FDA's Brooklyn office, said April 9 the condoms are "strictly a novelty item" and are not to be used for birth control or disease prevention.

"It was felt that the product was not clearly enough la-

beled as a novelty item," Janiger said. "The notice is on the outer wrapping, and if the purchaser overlooks this and removes the condom from it, the buyer might mistake it for the real thing."

He said the FDA "detained" 44,064 of the condoms that arrived from Sussex, England, in September, and the Long Island marketing firm, Dynamed Development Corp. of Commack, then voluntarily agreed not to distribute them.

Dynamed President Irving Sommer disputed the FDA

claim that inadequate labeling was the reason for the FDA rejection.

"They tested the condoms and found that some of them leaked," Sommer said.

Sommer said a similar shipment was approved by the FDA after it was delivered in August, and Sommer said he sent all the condoms to a California distributor whom he declined to identify.

He said he did not know how many of the condoms were sold in California. ▼

Harris 'On the Brink' Of Assembly Race

by Dennis Conkin

Jean Harris didn't wake up last Wednesday morning with the idea that she should become a candidate for State Assembly, and she says that she still doesn't see what the big deal is just because she has the filing papers.

"Maybe it's delusions of grandeur," Harris said, chuckling. "It never occurred to me that I would seek public office, but here I am with the papers on my desk. I don't know what the big flap is."

The flap is that Harris is a candidate at all and that she could, depending upon this year's reapportionment of Assembly districts, end up in a race.

"I think other lesbians and gay people of color should also enter this race. What's wrong with having gays and lesbians of color represent us?" she told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Harris said that her con-

cerns about reapportionment have led her to the brink of declaring her candidacy.

"It's not OK to isolate the lesbian and gay community and keep us on the level of city commissioner, the school board and the Board of Supervisors. It's now time to move to the state Legislature and the national level. You can't keep us isolated in local government," she said.

"The lesbian and gay community is a major part of the community, and the current Assembly district lines keep us cut in half. Our own people don't have the equal chance to run for office," she added.

According to Harris, the question remains whether reapportionment will be done equitably or whether there will be resistance to changing the status quo.

"Somebody is going to have to go. It's power — you don't give away power, you organize and you take away



Jean Harris

power from other people who have it. No one hands it to you on a silver platter," said the president of Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, who is also an aide to Supervisor Harry Britt.

And last November's Lavender Sweep means that the time is right for San Francisco's gay community to have a seat in the Assembly and not just be satisfied with

(Continued on page 24)

Concord Passes Anti-Bias Ordinance

by Keith Clark

Following months of often tense community meetings, the Concord City Council on April 9 approved by a 4-0 vote a new, broadly based anti-discrimination ordinance.

The ordinance, which got its second and final approval this past week, bars discrimination based on race, national origin, religion, gender, physical disability and sexual orientation.

In an unprecedented move, Councilmember Lloyd Mashore, the conservative fundamentalist who led a successful repeal move of the city's AIDS anti-discrimination law in 1989, abstained rather than voting against the ordinance, which was part of the council's consent calendar.

Following the first reading of the ordinance last month, Mashore announced that he

would begin a repeal move against the new law as soon as it passed the council because it includes sexual orientation.

Unlike the 1989 anti-bias law, the new ordinance bars discrimination against various minority groups and has also received the support of a number of community groups as well as the Concord Chamber of Commerce.

Rob Birle, co-chair of the Contra Costa Alliance for Gay & Lesbian Organizations, said passage of the ordinance was "extraordinarily good" for the whole city of Concord.

"It provides the kinds of protections we were wanting to have," he said. "And it does so in a way that brings the whole community together and shores up the community's commitment to make sure that nobody here is subjected to discrimination." ▼

Gay Jewish Group Marks Holocaust

by Dennis Conkin

Jewish and gay groups will commemorate Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Day, at UC Berkeley April 11, in an hourlong event, "A Covenant of Blood," on the UC Berkeley campus at the Hillel Foundation at 2736 Bancroft Way at 4 p.m.

"A Covenant of Blood" is sponsored by the Hillel Foundation, the UC Berkeley Multicultural Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Alliance, UC Berkeley Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association, Queer Nation and other groups.

According to Peter Altman, founder of Pa'amayim, a gay and lesbian Jewish campus organization, the ceremony will mark the tragedy of the Holocaust and the extermination of Jews, lesbians and gays by Adolf Hitler's Third Reich.

Altman said that Hillel "hasn't done outreach before to lesbian and gay people" and that the program includes a variety of groups.

The non-denominational program will include reflections by Rabbi Yoel Kahn, a well-known gay rabbi. A Roman Catholic priest and a gay historian will also speak at the event. ▼

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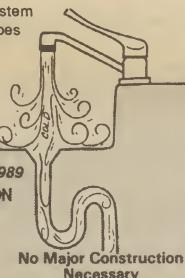
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Lesbian's Security Clearance Lawsuit Headed for Trial

by Keith Clark

The protracted lawsuit by a lesbian technical illustrator against the Central Intelligence Agency for denying her a security clearance appears headed for a courtroom trial after the government agency apparently changed its mind about an out-of-court settlement plan, the woman's attorney said.

According to Dick Gayer, the attorney battling the CIA's anti-gay restrictions for Julie Dubbs, the CIA's lawyer in the case had agreed in a settlement meeting earlier this year that the agency would not use sexual orientation in evaluating Dubbs' security clearance application.

But, Gayer says, what the CIA actually proposed in writing is that it would not deny the needed clearance "solely on the basis of her homosexuality."

This, Gayer says, makes the anticipated settlement in the case worthless because, "Nobody does anything for only one reason." Gayer said the government could use any number of minor reasons to reject Dubbs' application and then tie that to her sexual orientation to still deny the security clearance.

"What they do in gay cases," Gayer said, "is look for things in addition to homosexuality that they would not use against a straight person. One thing that they could use



Julie Dubbs

is, say, \$1,000 of debt would be too much for a gay person whereas for a straight person in her income bracket they might allow \$10,000. The idea being that a gay person is so weak that they would accept money from a hostile intelligence agency whereas a straight person would not. That's a lot of bullshit, of course, but that's the way they think."

Gayer said the government attorney in the case, Patrick Sorek, in February had accepted a recommendation by U.S. District Judge Eugene Lynch in a conference to settle the case out of court to remove the word "solely" from the CIA's proposal, thereby removing any consid-

eration of sexual orientation in the case.

Sorek's reintroduction of that single word in a settlement proposal, after six months of negotiations, Gayer says, means the long-delayed trial will now have to move forward.

The suit has been delayed years in pretrial arguments regarding how much the CIA's internal policies are subject to courtroom scrutiny.

In August, Judge Lynch said that the trial could finally move forward to establish whether the agency has a blanket anti-gay discriminatory policy, as Dubbs' suit charges, and whether such a policy is warranted.

The government contends sexual behavior is only one consideration it uses in evaluating a security clearance applicant's likelihood of being blackmailed.

Gayer has maintained throughout the suit that the policy violates Dubbs' constitutional guarantees of equal protection and that there is "no connection between sexual orientation and (national) security."

No date is scheduled for further hearings in the case, but Gayer is slated to take formal depositions from CIA officials in Washington, D.C., next month in an attempt to clarify exactly what the agency's employment policies are. ▼



Resurrection

Bartender Victory Casey welcomes patrons to the recently opened P.S. bar on Polk Street. The bar was formerly known as the New Belle Saloon.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

Jury Hears Killer's Confession

by Dennis Conkin

William Melvin White's taped confession to the San Francisco police's homicide detail was played to the jury during his murder trial this week in Superior Court.

White told Homicide Inspector Frank Falzon that he lured Larry Gaines, a 17-year-old Polk Street hustler, to a secluded Land's End campsite on a pretext, just hours before he and two accomplices tortured and murdered Gaines.

"I knew what I was going to do, so I just played along with him. ... I was sick of the deal and just couldn't wait un-

til we got to the tent," White said.

The pretext was that Gaines could obtain methamphetamine at the site and that he could join White's survivalist tribe that lived in a tent in the area.

When the pair got to the tent, White called his associates, David Murdoch and Ted Porter, to join him.

"I didn't say anything about the crank. I said he's here to join the group. It's up to you to decide whether to let him in or not," White said.

According to his testimony, White had no intent of letting Gaines join the group,

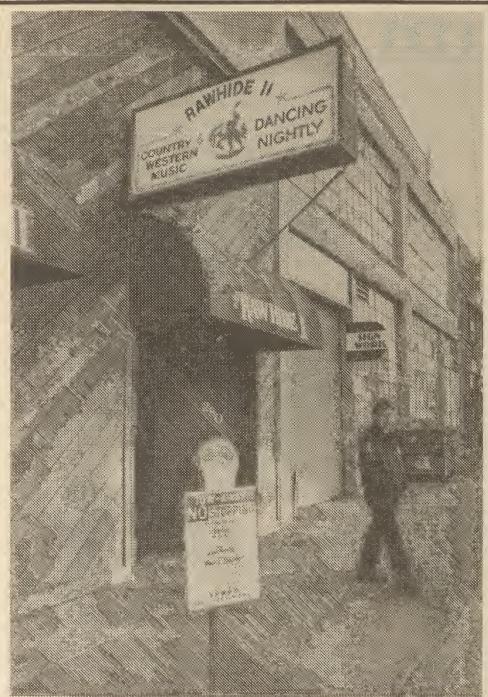
and had only brought him to the site to "kick his ass."

A bottle of vodka was introduced, and Gaines, Murdoch and Porter began drinking.

"David had a gun, a BB-gun, that he also brought out. David filled the gun with BBs and shot him about six or seven times. He passed the gun to Porter, and Ted shot him five or six times. Then the gun was passed to me, and I shot him about five or six times."

"He was in pain and going through a lot of changes. He was begging us to please let

(Continued on page 14)



Site of GLAAD and Queer Nation protests. (Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

Anti-Lesbian Film Sparks Bar Protest

by Keith Clark

The film crew for the controversial motion picture *Basic Instinct* got an unusual early morning surprise April 10.

Members of the Queer Nation affinity group, LABIA, showed up for a 7 a.m. demonstration outside a country-western gay bar South of Market, where segments of the motion picture are being filmed.

Protesters were objecting not only to what Queer Nationals say is the film's anti-lesbian content but also to the active participation of the gay bar, the Rawhide II.

Carrying signs reading "Testosterone Kills—Not Lesbians" and "Ray Chalker Sells Out Again," about a dozen protesters gathered outside the Rawhide II on 7th Street near Folsom during the early morning rush hour as the site crew for the film began arriving.

Chalker, publisher of the weekly gay newspaper, the *San Francisco Sentinel*, is also the owner of the bar.

"It's not like there are a whole lot of films in the world that portray lesbians

and bi women realistically," said LABIA member Judy Helfand. "They have to be pandering to how men already fear lesbians — that's the main issue. But it certainly hurts that it's a gay bar that's allowing it to film it."

Despite the fact that portions of *Basic Instinct* are being filmed at the gay bar, several LABIA and Queer Nation members said they understand the scenes being filmed were in fact actually portraying interior shots of what is supposed to be a straight bar.

Shortly after LABIA and QN members began showing up with picket signs, officers from the San Francisco Police Department arrived and put up barriers to keep the protesters away from the entrance to the bar as the location crew began arriving. Several of the stagehands were clearly displeased at the protesters.

"Ah, for crying out loud ... just what we need is a bunch of queers," groused one arriving crew member. "Is this some faggot group?" another asked out loud.

Basic Instinct first came to

(Continued on page 24)

Queer Nation Turns Focus to AIDS

by Dave Gilden

What — AIDS in the Queer Nation? A sharp reminder of the personal and social realities of the epidemic took place last week in a forum sponsored by Queer Nation, that normally frolicsome group out to promote a gay-and-lesbian-positive cultural environment.

"Queer Nation is kind of

an experiment on looking at things in new ways, and we're also looking at new definitions of AIDS activism," said Alan Carson of the Queer Nation focus group 4H (Happy, Healthy, Hip and HIV+), which specializes in AIDS' issues and organized the forum.

"Queer Nation is not an HIV-negative or disinterested

(Continued on page 25)

P-FLAG Launches Help Line

by Kevin Davis

921-8850. That's the phone number for the Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays/San Francisco new help line, launched two months ago.

"Sometimes a person answers and other times there's an answering machine message a person can call, and we'll call back quickly," P-FLAG member Joanne Goodman said. "All calls are answered discreetly."

On the help line Goodman has personally advised a gay father whose ex-wife was giving him trouble about seeing his children.

"Also, lots of parents want to know about their children being HIV positive," she says. "There are parents whose children have died willing to talk to parents whose children are living with AIDS."

Goodman spoke with the *Bay Area Reporter* last week about what the 10-year-old organization does and how she got involved.

The group, usually about 20 people, meets the second Sunday of each month from 2-4 p.m. at St. Francis Lutheran Church at 152 Church St.

"We encourage gay people to come to our meetings," Goodman said. "It helps parents who have never seen a gay person. Some parents are terribly upset that their children have just come out. They don't know what to do."

Such parents receive literature such as "First Reac-



Paulette Goodman

children's rights, and the more parents who come out, the easier that is. I won't work someplace where they can't know I have a gay son."

"When my son came out, I felt I fit the stereotype. I raised my son alone. I'm a strong woman. I didn't understand that it's not a choice. I kept thinking, I did this. I was frightened for him. I had all those fears. I learned through P-FLAG that he'll have a normal life. I've always been sad that I wasn't there for him when he was a teen-ager, that he had to go through that himself."

And what's her advice to gay people preparing to come out to parents?

"Be positive and truthful. I think you need strength in case your parents say, 'It's a sickness' or 'just a phase.' You have to tell them I'm happy. I'm OK."

Her advice to parents is, "There's a lot of pluses to having a gay child. Don't fight it so hard. It's really a wonderful thing. A lesson for parents is to let go of expectations. It has helped me understand what unconditional love is."

For more information about P-FLAG, phone or write the group at P.O. Box 640223, San Francisco, CA 94164; 681-4005. ▼

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EDITORIAL

With Warm Thoughts

Just as you think you have become calloused and inured to deaths from AIDS that surround you on a daily basis, there are no more tears and you know you have built an impenetrable wall, along comes something that just shatters that illusion all to hell.

Last week was a joyous week for us at the *Bay Area Reporter*. We were celebrating our 20th anniversary; we were also having a benefit for AIDS organizations and feeling quite smug and complacent about those facts when death dealt our double celebrations a double blow.

On Tuesday Mike Hippner left us. He leaves a slot that will never again be quite filled. For over 10 years (half of the paper's existence) he regaled us with his wit and stories of the life and times around us. Mike became the chronicler of the gay community of the '80s.

Whether he was leading us down the garden path about his failure as a soccer player (he was hot for one of the team members) or the trials of a drag queen applying his/her makeup, you were never disappointed. He always looked to the sunnier side of things. Of all the writers I know he was probably the most accessible. If you thought you had a wrong that had to be righted or vice-versa, Mike would talk to you and try to tell the world your side. Never at a loss for story material, he reveled in shocking his readers into laughing at themselves and tried to lighten a sometimes dreary world. Happily, most of his writings are bound in a lovely book called *So Little Time*. I recommend it, as it is filled with Mike's joy of life and never fails to bring a chuckle to the reader. Mike taught us all that life is precious and should be enjoyed to its fullest in spite of obstacles that may be placed in the way.

On Thursday of the same week, Robert Burt, father of our art director Richard Burt, called to tell me that his son had died. He and his wife had come to San Francisco to make sure that their son's last wishes were respected and accomplished. They were at his bedside when he went. Richard had reworked the look of this paper in the last five years and taught us that we must not become stagnant. "A newspaper is a living thing and must reflect the community it serves," he stated. "As the community changes, the paper must change." He was right, of course, and I am proud that the paper is constantly changing to reflect the vast diversity of our community.

Neither death was unexpected but we never wish to believe that it will come so soon. I had spoken to Richard right after his birthday and he sounded like he was overcoming his latest battle in his war against AIDS. Mike had gone into the hospital with what I thought was a minor liver infection and that he would be back out and writing. To have both of these fine men die in one week was a severe shock.

It is with the warmest of thoughts and love that I say to you both, you have made a difference in my life — a difference that won't be forgotten. Mike, thanks for your compassion and Richard, thanks for your persistence. Your friends and family at B.A.R. share the joy of your existence with me and wish you both a speedy journey in your continuing voyage of life.

Shalom,
Bob Ross



GUEST OPINION

'Aberrant Sexuality'

I wish to offer congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the *B.A.R.* I hope that the readership really appreciates the contributions to their lives and lifestyles made by your paper and by the gay and lesbian press in general.

The 1970s, the decade in which both of our publications were started, was one of real positive growth in recognizing the rights of gay men and women. I fear that the 1990s will see major limitations to these hard-won objectives. The basis of my fears is fully explained in the 20th anniversary issue of your paper, on page 31 in the article by Keith Clark, "The RICO Act: Porn Meets Art."

Perhaps many readers have glossed over this item, not particularly interested in porn, or thinking that the federal prosecutors are really only after organized crime and child molesters. *Wrong!* They are after every one of us. To men like Patrick Trueman, obscenity is not just a Mapplethorpe photo, a 2 Live Crew lyric, or a *Drummer* magazine, it is the fact that gays and lesbians exist at all. They have started their work and will not be satisfied until all depictions of "aberrant sexuality" are eliminated. Including such an openly and obscenely perverted paper as the *Bay Area Reporter*.

And they can do this quite easily, and quite legally, without ever getting a court conviction. As Keith Clark's article points out, using the RICO statutes they can seize all assets of whom-ever they accuse, then proceed with prosecution after prosecution after prosecution, until the victim of their attention is broken both financially and emotionally. They never have to actually win a single case to achieve their purpose. They have the full resources of the taxing power of the United States government to pay their bills, and their salaries, while they prosecute, and perse-



The front of Polk Street's Locker Room adult bookstore, seized by U.S. marshals.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

cute, those of us whom they consider obscene.

I hope my predictions are wrong. They will be if enough of us truly fight these unconstitutional actions by our own federal government. If we refuse to tolerate this now, we can stop it and both *Drummer* and the *Bay Area Reporter* will go on to enjoy at least 20 more years!

—Anthony F. DeBlase
Publisher, *Drummer* magazine

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LETTERS

To Hell and Back

★ Christopher Perout's letter (*B.A.R.*, "Back to Kansas," March 28) about San Francisco was rather amusing. Ironically, I have spent much of the past year exiled to the Gulag of Wichita by my company.

Needless to say, Wichita is a fine, enlightened city of sophisticates commonly referred to as "white trash." Ladies are typically Barbie dolls with rat's nest hairdos; men sport fine pre-antique pickups with room for at least three rifles or shotguns.

Conversation usually centers around disdain for "niggers, yangs, spics, homos" and the newly hated group, "sand niggers" (Arabs). Evening entertainment usually involves prayer meetings or getting drunk. Sometimes both.

Wichita has a per capita murder rate comparable to San Francisco, the difference being that murder is usually confined to the sanctity of the family. Isn't it better to be murdered by one you love instead of a total stranger in a totally senseless act? And, of course, gangs are taking over Wichita (read: the tiny black population is growing).

Wichita follows in the finest tradition of the Los Angeles Police Department. A recent incident involved the killing by police of a respected black Boeing Union leader in his own front yard. But he lived in a primarily white neighborhood and that kind of mistake is easy to make.

The weather certainly has more variety than the food, which is classic *Cuisine Le Juke* (World headquarters of Pizza Hut and Taco Rio, no less). You have your pick of ice storms, constant wind, oppressive heat and humidity and, of course, Dorothy's beloved tornadoes.

And if you're queer, there are the sodomy laws. And don't let your boss or your landlord know about it. AIDS is considered a San Francisco problem. There will be a rude awakening.

But enough Kansas bashing. Houses are cheap. There's an excellent Vietnamese restaurant (run by yangs, of course). And Kansas did elect a Democratic woman as governor (a stern anti-abortionist).

And speaking of Satan, how else do you explain this insular, racist, homophobic piece of Midwestern American pie? Quite frankly, I think I've been to hell. And it is Kansas.

Tom Stanley
San Francisco (Happy to be back in Oz)

Wichita or Bust

★ I knew if I waited long enough it would happen. Ron Bayles finally writes something (Guest Opinion, "The Three Fools," March 28) I can almost agree with. When he said that "we should stop encouraging weird malcontents from moving here" my mind just reeled with possibilities. I saw Chamber of Commerce ads. I heard Geraldo interviews. I saw stylish I.D. checkers on the bridges. How? Who? A sanctuary from weirdness. I love it. Quick! Call the Supes!

Then, only a page away (Letters), I read C. Perout's fabulous find of "Churches-Satanist" and the answer was so obvious. Kansas, of course. The sanctuary already exists.

Rise to the occasion, Ron. Lead the way back. Put your foot where your mouth usually is. Jump on that little ole bus back to Wichita together. The two of you would have so much to gossip and bitch about that you'd obviously have a marvelous trip.

Why, you could even invite those other sirens of the silver screen — Youngblood, Bettencourt, Applegate and Edwards — along too. Wouldn't that be fun? And hey! When you got to your sanctuary, you could call Rush Limbaugh and have someone else to talk with. He'd just love hearing about San Francisco from homo "leaders" like you.

And, yes, Ron, I also agree with you that we indeed do "need a sanctuary in San Francisco" — but I believe it's from ignorant, assimilationist, right-wing politics hiding behind the term "conservative" like yours.

Michael Kensingher
San Francisco

Don't Apologize For Me

The following is an open letter to Ron Bayles, author of last week's Guest Opinion, "The Three Fools."

★ Ron, Ron, Ron. You're kidding, right? What exactly is a "just" war, anyway? When our country's leader is mad at their country's leader and, instead of just killing that leader, we kill 100,000 innocent citizens living in his country?

Please, please, please don't do any apologizing in my name to all of America. And don't be calling people fools until you turn that mirror around and take a good look at yourself. Have you been featured recently in the local Sunday paper because of all the important work you are doing on behalf of the gay and lesbian community?

I'm so glad to hear that you don't wear makeup, dress in costumes or have green hair and, therefore, consider yourself assimilated into the heterosexual world of "normalcy." Why don't you haul your conservative Republican butt up to Concord where they really know how to treat a gay patriot!

Cynthia Bologna
San Francisco

Two Concerns

★ Concerning Ronald E. Bayles' Guest Opinion, "The Three Fools": Since when does El Salvador have a "free and democratic government"? Give us a break!

Concerning Rachel Pepper: She's the most consistently interesting and articulate columnist the *B.A.R.* has. How about making her editor?

Rebecca Ripley
Menlo Park, CA

Tarnished Image

★ I was very surprised by Rachel Pepper's column ("Simply Safe Space," *B.A.R.*, March 28). Having regularly read her work, I've come to regard Ms. Pepper as an intelligent and sensible person. Her thoughts on women-only space and separatism have really tarnished her image for me, and I hope she will rethink her position.

Pepper says, "It is not easy to explain to men about the continued need for woman-only space..." Boy, is that inaccurate! It's impossible to explain because the concept has no possible rational defense.

Pepper tugs at our heartstrings with references to the feelings of women who have suffered assault at the hands of men. She talks of the fear that women feel on daylit city sidewalks. Does she think that men never fear for their safety? Does she really think that men are the only source of violence and that existence in a women-only space will assure her safety "simply because there are no men there"? Come on Rachel, I know you better than that!

Subsequent paragraphs in Pepper's column descend almost to whining with statements such as, "It is... just so hard for women to get any respect from men." She decries the fact that women's bars are disappearing, but ignores the fact of life that any bar that is well-run and attracts a loyal patronage will have no trouble staying in business. Just ask the two lesbians who own one of the oldest and most consistently well-run men's bars in the Castro.

Many of the women in this city have earned undying affection and gratitude for their support and never-ending personal commitment to helping the gay men's community deal with the scourge of AIDS. In recent years we have found that gay men have a real community of interest, particularly with our lesbian sisters, on any number of fronts. Not the least of those is to address the increasingly serious problems of homophobic violence. It is equally important that we give serious attention to all forms of interpersonal violence, certainly including those that primarily victimize women.

Rachel, can you seriously tell me that separation will hasten or in any way aid these goals? I don't think so.

Albert B. Potter
San Francisco

Homage to the Living

★ I ask for no horns nor trumpets, but just drums — for the reason of paying respect to the war dead and the survivors who will have to carry on. I wish that you would not only pay homage to our fallen Vietnam vets, but that you also pay homage to the living, because we have to carry on.

Terry F. Robinson
Vietnam Vet
San Francisco

A March for 1992

★ To all members of the community interested in organizing a third March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, please note that there will be a second national planning meeting on May 11 and 12 to take place in Washington, DC. The meeting will be held at the Omni Sheraton Hotel, 2500 Calvert St., NW. Special arrangements for travel and accommodations are currently being made and will soon be made public.

While I was not able to attend the first planning meeting on March 9, I understand that several people urged that the march be deferred until after 1994. As an HIV-positive man with more teeth than T-cells, I would like to strongly press for a march in May of 1992. While I understand that a year is not much time to get one million women and men to DC, I also know that there are tens of thousands of gay men eager to march again who will not be above ground in 1995 or 1997.

I recommend that all those interested in the march begin to plan grass-roots meetings in their city or region, do outreach to the diverse elements within our lesbian and gay communities and commit to attending the May 11-12 meeting. It is vital that there be a demonstration of broad-based support for a march so that the national gay/lesbian organizations and established activists understand the importance of this event.

There has been a toll-free number set up to answer questions concerning the May meeting 1-800-832-2889. Or feel free to contact me at (415) 552-8382 or (415) 863-4676.

Drew Siegel
San Francisco

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Reviewing the Record

★ All evidence indicates we're on the verge of a Gatesgate in California. Politicians are jumping on bandwagons right and left. While the iron is hot, I'd like to examine the record of two local candidates in relation to police brutality.

First, let's take senatorial candidate Feinstein. About eight years ago in San Francisco, police abuses had reached a point that the citizens felt an agency independent of the department was needed to police the police. Harry Britt proposed a resolution establishing an Office of Civilian Complaint. It was passed by the Board of Supervisors, only to be vetoed by then Mayor Feinstein. Harry then took the measure to the people in a referendum, where it passed overwhelmingly.

Feinstein promptly did everything in her power to thwart the will of the people. She reduced proposed funding to a level that would make it impossible to hire sufficient personnel to do the job and stalled allocation of what was left so that it was over a year before anyone was hired. She used virtually every trick in the book to castrate the citizen's watchdog. I find this remarkable behavior for someone who became mayor because of political assassinations by an ex-police officer.

Frank Jordan is running for mayor. This former police chief rewarded his brother, the officer in charge when Dolores Huerta was beaten and the police rioted in the Castro, with a paid vacation for the rest of his life under the auspices of "early retirement." This decisive action meant that Jack Jordan was immune to any sanctions by internal affairs or the police commission because a retired officer cannot be tried or penalized. In my opinion, this action alone was sufficient to render Frank Jordan unfit to head the city's police, much less the city. I think the appropriate course would have been to insist that his brother remain attached to the department until investigations by internal affairs and hearings before the police commission were completed. Once the relevant agencies had been given the opportunity to penalize or discipline, I feel resignation should have been demanded rather than early retirement rewarded.

On Tuesday, March 26, Frank Jordan was presented on *CNN Headline News*. Jordan referred to Daryl Gates as "a friend." He mitigated this by suggesting that Gates step down as police chief of Los Angeles. Footage of the beating of Dolores Huerta was shown. Jordan dismissed this as "an isolated incident committed by one officer." CNN visually refuted this police grandstanding by then showing footage of the Oct. 6 police riot in the Castro. Unfortunately, they failed to tell the viewer what was being shown or to otherwise allude to the pattern of misconduct by the San Francisco Police Department. No mention was made of the millions of dollars the city has paid in settlements. Nor was any mention made of the number and frequency of complaints.

J. Craig Canada
San Francisco

'The Chief & Arsenio Show'

★ I am not at all shocked by the Los Angeles Police Department's attack on Rodney King. Violence against the lesbian/gay community has been the pattern of that department for years. I do find it a bit odd that the general public is shocked, when we, the victims of these criminal actions, are not.

Chief Gates continues to deny his responsibilities, but he has a long history of video racism. At least three times in the past few years, he has been caught on camera making racially derogatory remarks. What is surprising is that he has not been a guest on Arsenio Hall's *Bash O Rama*. Chief Gates and Arsenio could exchange humorous solutions on how to deal with us.

Just imagine, a black man with a nightshift national forum regularly spews homophobic racism. Another, a white chief of police who also regularly demonstrates his verbal racism (with the entire L.A.P.D. at his disposal), condoning violence against the very people he is sworn to "protect and serve."

The privilege of leadership and fame comes with certain responsibilities for human rights. To use these positions to encourage racism, homophobia and violence is an abomination and is no longer tolerated by the lesbian/gay community across America today.

Arsenio, ask Rodney King if he gets the joke.

Jaime Green
Los Angeles, CA

Budgetary Binging

★ While the city faces a budget deficit of over \$150 million this year, city government reaches deeper and deeper into the taxpayers' pockets to come up with the money to fund the extra staff it so blithely approves. The recently passed increase in the mayor's staff budget and the Board of Supervisors' budget illustrate City Hall's absolute lack of discipline in fiscal matters. Week after week, month after month, we continue to add staff we cannot pay for.

Meanwhile, City Hall continues to ignore the aspirations of the people it governs. You want neighborhood libraries. We want higher fees. You want cleaner, safer streets. We want an increased central bureaucracy. We have become masters of hypocrisy as we cut services such as library hours, arts programs and services while adding to our central bureaucracy. Have we learned nothing from Eastern Europe?

For the past three years, we have faced ever-

escalating budget deficits. Instead of coping out by blaming "outside" forces "beyond our control," we must curb our budgetary binging by reducing the bureaucracy, starting with the mayor's staff, the Board of Supervisors' staff and by reducing those functions which have no direct contact with the public.

One of the first places to look is the mammoth Health Department. Under the rubric of cultural sensitivity, we have created one of the most segregated health care systems in the country. We have lost any sense of professionalism. Our government services are delivered on an exclusively political basis. It appears we have given up the notion of an equal or integrated society. And sadly, the present budget will be no exception.

The public deserves a budget that is equitable, professional and apolitical. City Hall seems determined to deny them one.

Supervisor Bill Maher
San Francisco

Check the Code

★ About Dennis Conkin's story of how Colossus refused to call the police officer after an armed robbery: there is a municipal code section which requires businesses to call the police in case of an emergency. Victims David Thompson and friend should check with the District Attorney and their own attorney. What if their house had been on fire?

Also, the city and county of San Francisco should send reminder notices of this requirement to all businesses, perhaps in the form of a sticker for the telephone(s). This could be done yearly with the business tax notice.

Once I saw a burglary in progress — two men throwing luggage off the balcony of the motel at Geary and Larkin — and two nearby businesses refused to call the police. On another occasion, a late-night donut shop on Mission St. near 16th refused my pleas to call an ambulance for a man who was outside bleeding from terrible knife wounds. This is a truly serviceable and useful law; if it were better known, our streets would be much safer.

Don Miesen
San Francisco

Real Heroes

★ Two weeks ago, my friend (name withheld) died in R.K. Davies Medical Center on the HIV unit. She was 33 years old and a health care professional actively involved in her own care. She had been in the hospital for a few months and was admitted to the HIV unit when it opened. The nursing care on the HIV unit was outstanding.

The nurses on the HIV unit were wonderful to my friend, her family and friends. They were open and discussed and planned care for her. They assisted her to make decisions with her physician. The physical care they delivered was excellent. The partnership they created with her allowed her to be in control of her life until her death. In spite of her dimming consciousness, agitation and periodic confusion, the nurses treated her with dignity, respect and compassion.

In observing her care, I was proud to be a nurse, and as a person with AIDS, I was comforted by their caring. Jim Delacorda, Demetra Terrien and the wonderful nursing staff are real heroes behind the scenes of this horrible epidemic. All that was left for my friend was nursing care and she received the best.

W. Carole Chenitz, R.N., Ed.D.
Greenbrae, CA

Never-Ending Saga

★ A little background organ music please! When we last met, Harry was proposing a redundant resolution declaring San Francisco a sanctuary for gays and lesbians — only to have his proposal rejected by Art. Needing to have his say in the madness, Bill condemns his peers for their original resolution naming San Francisco as a sanctuary for war objectors and urges repeal.

More organ music, please! Carole, Harry and Roberta, this wonderfully gay little threesome, reject Bill's advances only to be rebuffed by this silly little Board with another resolution upholding the original resolution.

Not to be outdone, Art proposes to Harry, Carole, Roberta and Bill! He proposes a new resolution declaring the resolution adopted by the Board upholding the original resolution declaring the city a safe place for war resisters null and void. Gasp! Gasp! Let us catch our breath.

Sighting the end of the conflict in the Gulf, Art declares the honeymoon over and that Carole, Harry and Roberta's proposals are now meaningless.

Now Art, eager to regain lost tourism revenues, says the city will have a parade in May, but the city will not sponsor it and it will be held at the Presidio. How interesting. A parade for the fighters and a welcome mat for the ones who discovered, after enlisting, they had morals. Stay tuned for the continuing saga of *Another Resolution*.

Gary Ostrander
San Francisco



Queer label is dividing the gay/lesbian community.

A Queer By Any Other Name...

While a majority of gays and lesbians reject being referred to as "queer," a new generation of young militant gays and lesbians has adopted the label and the idea is dividing our community on a level not seen in a long time.

I received a phone call last week from one of the city's most respected lesbians suggesting (demanding?) that I use this column to criticize those "young gays and lesbians who never had to fight to get the rights they now enjoy" for their use of the word "queer."

When I myself was the age of most members of Queer Nation, people usually reacted by punching the straight bully in the nose if he taunted you by calling you a "queer," but things have, or so it seems, changed.

The question quickly comes to mind as to whether or when the younger militant gays will insist on being called "faggot" — can it be far away? Frankly it matters little to me if Queer Nation wants to be called queer, but please, just don't refer to me as same.

I have, as have most other gays past age 30, spent too many years fighting the image of being "queer" (sic), and frankly, I don't need the attention that these younger gays and lesbians are obviously trying to get by screaming "we're queer and proud."

But, if Queer Nation or anyone else wishes to be called "queer," so what? Do you really want to hear yourself referred to as "queer," or worse yet, "faggot"? Not me. As one gay leader asked in a recent *New York Times* story on the subject, would you really want to hear heterosexual "politicians discussing 'queers' and 'faggots' on the Senate floor" while arguing gay rights legislation?

Well, I can assure you that the first politician, local or statewide, in California who refers to gays and lesbians as "queers" and/or "faggots" can forget about support from this newspaper. It took more than 20 years for the word "gay" to win widespread acceptance and now that straights even use "gay" as a respectful word, one wonders why some gays have to be called "queer."

The word will always have a

pejorative connotation to most gays and lesbians; but what the hell, if it has a special meaning to the younger gay and lesbian activists, surely it cannot be that meaningful — or hurtful.

Members who insist on being called "queer" insist they are in fact reclaiming the term from homophobic bigots who still use it as a slur and somehow turning the word into a respectful badge of honor similar to the pink triangle that gays were forced to wear in Nazi Germany, but which is now worn with pride by gay marchers and demonstrators. Sounds reasonable enough to me.

So, to my friends who worked hard and long for years (some, in fact for a lifetime) to tear down the stereotypes of gays and lesbians, I can only say that I don't like the "queer" word and will never use it myself, but I can understand those who do.

Will "queer" ever gain the acceptance that "gay" has in general usage? Certainly not. The word simply alienates too many gays and lesbians who still feel that using the "queer" word only gives more encouragement to bigoted straights to use degrading language.

My lesbian friend says she still loathes the word, as do I, but these younger gays and lesbians feel that the word has a real meaning to what they are attempting to accomplish, so what real harm can it do?

In many respects, Queer Nation is doing a good job and it shouldn't really matter what they wish to call themselves. When they get around to changing the names of the Toklas, Milk and Stonewall clubs to include the word "queer," well, then you'll really hear it from this "gay" man.

★ ★ ★

Politics & People

Even some of Assembly Speaker Willie Brown's long-time friends and associates were a bit taken aback to hear him scream "racism" at the media and other critics who are publicly questioning some of his private law practice deals. "Completely out of character for Willie," one longtime Brown admirer said, adding that "a guy like Brown only screams 'racism' when all else

fails. Could it be getting a bit warm for him?"

In Los Angeles, where the battle between Mayor Tom Bradley and the embattled police chief is getting really dirty, some think Chief Daryl Gates might end up a candidate for mayor himself, despite a battle that continues to divide the state's largest city.

In the state of Washington, a hate crimes bill died in a Senate committee last week because it specified protection for gays. The bill would have made it a felony to harass gays.

The new book *Nancy Reagan, the Unauthorized Biography* out this week, discloses that Ronald Reagan "loves anti-gay and racist humor, even jokes about AIDS," and why does this not surprise me?

In St. Louis, Mo., Robert Schwitz, the second ROTC cadet at Washington University who has admitted being gay, is awaiting word on whether he can stay in the Air Force ROTC and if he must return nearly \$45,000 in scholarships because the ROTC bars gays. Schwitz says he learned he was gay in 1988 after joining the Air Force.

Pennsylvania U.S. Sen. John Heinz, one of the most pro-gay Republicans in Congress, who was killed in a plane crash last week was born in Pittsburgh but grew up in San Francisco and still had a lot of friends and relatives here. The Democratic governor of Pennsylvania will name a Democrat to Heinz's seat this week.

In New York, Catholic Cardinal John J. O'Connor is crying that the media are "biased against Catholicism" because they had the guts to label the banning of gays and lesbians marching in last month's St. Patrick's Day Parade for exactly what it was — "bigoted homophobia."

Also in New York, Democratic politicos are saying that Gov. Mario Cuomo is beginning to get cold feet about a possible presidential bid against President Bush next year. "Mario doesn't think anyone can beat Bush," one top Democrat said.

Then in San Francisco's City Hall, we heard Supervisor

(Continued on page 24)

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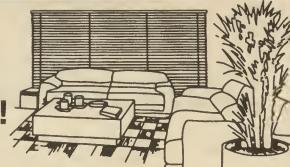
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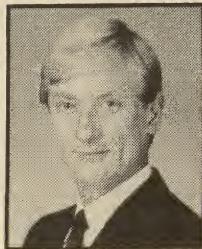
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THE OUTER LIMIT

Bi Bi-Love, Hello Happiness

by Rachel Pepper

Forgive me if I introduce yet another column with the mention of a particular book I am reading. However, I really think that the one I have in mind may well be the book that will change and/or validate more people's lives than any other volume published this year by a feminist or gay and lesbian small press. The book in question is *Bi Any Other Name: Bisexual People Speak Out*, a new anthology edited by Loraine Hutchins and the Bay Area's own Lani Kaahumanu.

The first such book of its kind, it has been published by Alyson Press, one of the more forward-thinking and risk-taking queer presses.

And I'm certainly glad that Sasha Alyson took the risk, because for me and for many others, this book represents a particular kind of coming home not easily found in either the straight or gay communities.

There's no doubt that the Bay Area is a hotbed these days for the burgeoning bisexual pride movement. A new magazine, *Anything That Moves*, is breaking new ground in charting this movement, and organizations like the North American Multicultural Bisexual Network, and BIPOC, the Bisexual People of Color Caucus, are active organizations that do outreach and education within and outside the straight, queer and bisexual communities.

Yet a book like *Bi Any Other Name* is a particular kind of groundbreaking more substantive than a magazine, and more intimate than a political organization. It promises to fill in the gaps in our collective understanding of bisexual men and women and enable them to better understand themselves. And that's something that I personally am hungering for these days.

When I had my first sexual encounter with another woman at the age of 17, I was both terribly terrified and terribly turned on. However, not being ready back then to face the knowledge that I could be lesbian, I shelved that experience, continued along a more or less heterosexual path, and blossomed into something like full-blown woman lover only in my early 20s.

But I've also always known that I've never entirely been willing to give up men — or give up on men — completely. Though it has been four years since I've slept with a man, I've found

myself considering the possibility that it probably won't be that long again till I'm with one more. How do I know that to be true?

Well, for the past several years I've put ever-growing amounts of time into lesbian feminist and queer concerns. I've toed almost every politically correct line around until learning that the PC police will still come after you no matter how pure you think your queer credentials might be.

Since I made that decision, I've been more concerned with positive social change and pushing our boundaries than conforming to anyone's expectations of who or what they think I should be. If people have a problem with it all, they just need to get over it.

Boundary breaker though I am, however, one of the last boundaries I've had to break for myself is my own fear of bisexuality. Or, more specifically, my own fear of my own bisexuality. Because although I really do think of myself as a woman with "dyke" energy, and have been calling myself a dyke for years, when I think about it, maybe "bi-dyke," a lesbian-identified bisexual woman, better suits me.

The Larger Picture

Most gays and lesbians know the feeling of growing up searching for definitions, looking for a larger picture into which they can fit. This quest is also applicable to the bisexual community, and it's a theme that runs through many of the pieces in *Bi Any Other Name*: this searching for inclusivity in a community given to extremes like lesbian separatism, gay male misogyny and everything else in between.

So where do we, with the potential to love both sexes, fit into this picture? Or do we? Maybe we don't, and we just need to follow in the footsteps of San Franciscan contributor Carol Queen when she writes, "I had to face it: I was just a pervert. I began to take a certain pleasure in it."

Maybe that's why I do love the word queer so. I may not be the perfect lesbian, and there's no way I've ever been straight, but I certainly am queer. That identity claimed me long before I claimed any other name for myself, and will most likely be the one I keep for a while.

The fact is, however, that there is a growing community of queers who now self-identify proudly as bisexual, and many more that would, if it felt like a safe choice for

them to do so. Perhaps that's why *Bi Any Other Name* is one of the top-selling books at queer bookstores across the country. For now, it may be the only safe choice there is for many bisexual people.

Watching *Bi Any Other Name* fly out of my bookstore has been a telling experience for me. The variety of folks I've seen purchasing the book have ranged from obvious suburban homemakers to Queer Nation kids with leather jackets covered with fluorescent stickers that say "FAG" and "DYKE."

They Are Everywhere

Reading the book has been equally, if not more so, illuminating. Seems like the expression "We Are Everywhere" was not made exclusively for just the gay and lesbian community. The stories told in *Bi Any Other Name* are themselves incredibly diverse, ranging from a radical "lesbian-identified bisexual fag hag" to those legally — and happily — married to the opposite sex. And interspersed in the text lie essays by editors Hutchins and Kaahumanu on various facets of bisexual identity, including my favorite chapter, an overview of bisexual politics aptly called "A Queer Among Queers."

There has been much suspicion and name calling of bis in the gay and lesbian community. It has been more acceptable to discount bisexuals for the fact that they may sleep with the opposite sex than to acknowledge their very real emotional and political ties to the larger queer community.

Hopefully, the growing bisexual pride movement will help to remind us that we really are all in this together, and the sooner we just accept this and get on with it, the stronger our joint queer causes will become.

For as Carol Queen writes, "We are not divided into straight and gay peoples. Visualize Kinsey's famous hetero-homo continuum. Bisexuality begins the minute we step off the zero, heterosexual end. We don't hit unambiguous dry land again until we get to six, at the other side of the ocean, where gold-star gays and lesbians dwell. Some of us, to be sure, swim right to it. For the rest of us, perhaps the journey, not the destination, is the thing."

And for me, anyway, that journey is only just beginning.

by Kurt Erichsen

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MURPHY'S MANOR



A Last Laugh

by Mike Hippler
and Mark Schofs

let's trade places."

★ ★ ★

A few weeks ago, my lover, Mike Hippler, told me that he wanted to write an article to appear after he died, something, he said, that would play a joke on death and allow him to speak from the grave. Perhaps death got wind of Mike's ruse and took it personally, because it cut him down before he had a chance to finish the piece.

Lying in his hospital bed last week, realizing that he might not make it out, Mike asked me to write a final column for him. I agreed, of course. But rummaging through Mike's papers, I found the opening paragraphs to the column he originally wanted to write. So we'll play that joke on death after all.

By the time you read this, I'll be dead. I don't know how or when, for, at the time of this writing, it hasn't yet happened. But unless I'm somehow luckier than every person with AIDS who has preceded me, the chances are great that I'll die sooner rather than later. And because I don't believe in postponing until tomorrow what I can easily do today, or in allowing others to do for me what I can do for myself, I'm writing my own obituary when I'm still able to do it. This, then, is the last article you'll be reading by me — unless I've got something else up my sleeve.

At present — the time I'm writing, not the time you're reading — I'm lying in the shade of a palm tree on a beach in the Virgin Islands. Death seems very far away. But at least in the perceptions of others, I've been close to death for quite some time.

Three years ago, after I first tested positive, I told my best friend from high school, Randy, about my condition. Randy was clearly disturbed. Expecting God-knocks-what insights from me, he turned and asked, "So, Mike, what's it like? I mean, you're the first person my own age in my life this close to death. Surely you must have something profound to say."

I racked my brains looking for something suitably dramatic and came up empty.

"No, Randy, I'm sorry, I don't. All I can tell you is that I just carry on, as best I can with life as usual. It's really quite simple. It may sound hackneyed, but that's the best I can do."

Randy was crushed. It wasn't what he wanted to hear. Consequently, I felt guilty for disappointing my friend, and I vowed to do better the next time someone asked for insights from the threshold of death. I might, I thought, even prep myself by writing those insights down in advance — and saving them not only for future conversations but also for the obituary you're reading now.

At the moment, however, I simply said, "Cheer up, Randy. Things could be worse. You could have the disease. If you really want to know what things are like from my point of view, then

The pertinent facts first. I was born in Bethesda, Md., but raised in Atlanta, Ga., where I sang with the Atlanta Boys Choir and became an Eagle Boy Scout. After high school, I majored in English at Duke University, earned a teaching certificate and graduated magna cum laude. Halfway through college, I came out.

That's as far as Mike got, and although it contains many of the Hippler hallmarks — honesty, wry humor, and an abiding optimism — it doesn't say anywhere near all the things he would have liked to. It doesn't say how much he appreciated all you readers, how he saved each of the hundreds of letters he got from the good, the bad and the ugly alike. It doesn't convey how much he loved writing the column, nor how hard he labored, often into the wee hours of the morning to get each one of them just right, to chronicle not just the facts but also the emotion, texture and color of his life and times. And finally, it doesn't describe the overall mission of his column, the reason why he labored over and loved it as much as he did.

Luckily, the last of those — the laying out of his mission — he did write in the foreword to his book, *So Little Time*. Because the book is a collection of the columns Mike wrote right here in this paper, I think it makes a fitting close.

But there's one more thing to say before ending. Although Mike's writing was important — one



Services were held for Mike Hippler on April 6.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

of the best, most honest voices of our community, a gay Everyman — Mike was more, infinitely more, than his work. Exuberant, generous, witty, sexy, honest, tenacious, gentle, campy, creative, kind, courageous, and fun-loving, he was all of these, but they don't even begin to describe him. I miss him, and I love him.

So little time. Ten years ago, for most gay men (most I knew, at any rate), the phrase meant one thing only: so many men, so little time. Now it means something else entirely: the threat of impending death. This shift in meaning reflects the phenomenal transition my friends and I have undergone during this decade. The phrase, therefore, is an appropriate symbol, a linguistic bridge to span the gap between the way life used to be and the way it is now.

But for me it means so much more. It is my habitual complaint that there are never enough hours in the day

for all I want to do. Despite AIDS, despite temporary periods of boredom, anxiety or despair, life remains for me an exhilarating affair, and I am all too aware that in the grand scheme of things, my own singular life is but a fleeting moment, a gust of wind in a season of storms. The least I can do is make the most of it.

It is difficult to encompass the hopes and fears of a generation in a weekly newspaper column, or in a book of essays drawn primarily from that column, but at the risk of sounding ridiculously pompous, that's exactly what I've tried to do. To me, the greatest compliment of all is the acknowledgment, "You've written what I feel." For a writer who focuses so often on his own personal experiences, this is more than appreciation; it is justification.

Because I came of age during a period of tremendous flux, when fundamental social and political questions were impossible to avoid, I've always felt a great responsibility to address these kinds of

issues. But ever since I was old enough to keep a diary I've been equally drawn to the personal — in all our lives, not just my own. Even if I wanted to, I couldn't write about AIDS, for example, all the time. In spite of the epidemic, people still fall in love, pursue careers, and search for fulfillment. These things too deserve attention.

In assembling these essays, I've attempted to do what I do in my column: to strike a balance not only between the public and the private, but also between the educational and the entertaining, the sublime and the ridiculous. If I err, it is on the side of frivolity. To me, nothing is sacred, including myself. Try as I might, I can never be serious for long. This doesn't mean, of course, that I don't care passionately about things. Like my more somber friends, naturally I get frustrated and angry at times. But it's easy to shout and depress to cry. If at all possible, I'd rather laugh. ▼

Writer Mike Hippler, 1951-1991

Mike Hippler, whose books and columns chronicled gay life in San Francisco and beyond, died April 2 of complications due to HIV infection at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in San Francisco. He was 39.

For a decade, Hippler's column for the *Bay Area Reporter*, the nation's largest-circulation gay newspaper, told the story of political struggles and personal foibles in the gay community and in Hippler's own life with a mixture of journalistic directness and self-effacing humor.

Writing with unflinching honesty, Hippler covered topics ranging from hate crimes, political protest, and the AIDS crisis to drag queens, leather competitions, and the ordinary doings of everyday life, as often as not focusing on his own experiences. In the introduction to his book *So Little Time: Essays on Gay Life (Celestial Arts)* gay writer Randy Shilts said Hippler portrayed the "gay Everyman."

The book was also praised by authors Andrew Holleran and Philip Lobeck and topped a number of gay best-seller lists.

Hippler was also the author of *Matlovich: The Good Soldier*, the biography of late Sgt. Leonard Matlovich, the celebrated gay Vietnam War hero whose legal battle with the military catapulted him to the cover of *Time* magazine in the 1970s.

Hippler's *Reporter* columns earned him three consecutive San Francisco Cable Car Awards for outstanding journalism. A prolific author, his work also appeared in the *Advocate*, the *New York Native*, the *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

He had also completed three novels.

A native of Bethesda, Md., Hippler grew up in Atlanta and was graduated magna cum laude from Duke University in 1974 with a degree in English. He later earned a master's degree in education from San Francisco State University.

After teaching for two years in Covington, Va., and one year in Los Angeles, he studied dance on a scholarship from the Joffrey Ballet in New York before moving to San Francisco in 1979.

Hippler, an avid traveler,

tennis player, and lover of the outdoors, was also a popular waiter at Vanelli's Seafood Restaurant on Pier 39 for the last seven years.

His writing in San Francis-

strike a balance not only between the public and the private, but also between the educational and the entertaining, the sublime and the ridiculous. If I err, it is on the side of frivolity. To me, nothing is sacred, including myself. Try as I might, I can never be serious for long. This doesn't mean, of course, that I don't care passionately about things. Like my more somber friends, naturally I get frustrated and angry at times. But it's easy to shout and depress to cry. If at all possible, I'd rather laugh.

Hippler is survived by his sisters, Judy Bello of McLean, Va., and Melissa Hippler of Washington, D.C., and their families, and by his lover, Mark Schofs, former managing editor of the *Windy City Times*, a Chicago gay newspaper.

Memorial services were held April 6 in San Francisco at the Neptune Society. Donations in Hippler's name may be made to the Foundation for the Joffrey Ballet, 130 W. 56th St., New York 10019, and to the Larkin Street Youth Center, 1044 Larkin, San Francisco 94109. ▼

co captured perhaps the most significant decade in the lives of gay men in modern times. But between the social triumphs and the tragedies of AIDS, Hippler's focus in his writing — and in his life — was on the personal and his style was laced with humor.

In the foreword to *So Little Time*, Hippler wrote:

"In assembling these essays, I've attempted to do what I do in my column: to

Gates

(Continued from page 1)

Gates," waved by Stonewall Democratic Club President Steve Martin, who was walking at the head of the march, and sticker-decked Ellin Sherman of Queer Nation, who signed speeches during the rally.

Lesbian and gay groups walked at the end of the long march, were not invited to join the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Waters on stage with elected officials and leaders of other groups, and were next to last on the speakers list.

Queer Nation's Barbara Bailey, ACT UP/LA's Connie Norman and Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum chair (and LA City AIDS Coordinator) Phill Wilson spoke about police brutality toward homosexuals to a handful of lesbians and gays and about 50 other people, including those who stayed to hear the last speaker talk about Malcolm X, some homeless people and those who cleaned up.

"There is no Rainbow Coalition," said Queer Nation's Cory Roberts. "We think we were minimalized in the march and rally."

"We have put other coalitions and other demonstrations in jeopardy today to be here and to stand with this coalition," said ACT UP/LA's Connie Norman. "We were not allowed to stand on the stage, yet we're asked to be here. We're given the back of the bus one more time. And the organizer's comments were 'Well you can do anything you want. Act up if you want to.'"

But what really riled some lesbians and gays was that, despite assurances during a private coalition meeting, neither Jackson nor Waters included lesbians and gays in

their list of groups affected by police brutality.

"I'm extremely disappointed," said Steve Martin. "I just had a conversation with Jesse Jackson on Wednesday and reminded him that he forgot the lavender stripe of the Rainbow Coalition at the state Democratic Convention, which was an exception to all the other times I've heard him speak. And I said, 'Don't forget us on Saturday and he promised that would not happen!'"

However, Wilson had a different view.

"That doesn't surprise me in this context. That's why we're here. The primary issue for the people who spoke is on the race question. I don't think there's enough consciousness about police brutality around gay and lesbian issues. That's a sign of the work we have to do," Wilson said.

Rally organizers said that not all of the 50 coalition groups would get mentioned, but there was no question that gays and lesbians were actually in the leadership of this coalition. Organizers agreed to talk about the feeling of exclusion at the next meeting.

There was a moment of confusion among lesbian and gay protesters when, amid all the "Gates Must Go" chanting, a rapper used the word "fag" during his performance.

It turned out, however, that what Roger G. Smith ("Smiley" from *Do the Right Thing* and the history professor in *A Different World*) actually said was: "What are you going to do, boys in blue/underneath your red, white, and blue flag? Now you're probably expecting me to call you a fag. But I won't because I'm not homophobic/and I won't go aerobic on your head."

What Smith said he in-



U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Los Angeles) and Jesse Jackson at anti-Gates march.

(Photo: Karen Ocambo)

tended to say was that the police state is homophobic and violent.

Jackson and Waters called upon the assembled crowd to hold their elected officials accountable.

"The City Council has forgotten who you are," Waters said. "They just made a big mistake."

Specifically Waters challenged City Council members Nate Holden, Joan Milk Flores and Richard Alatorre for voting to reinstate Gates after the Los Angeles Police Commission had suspended him for 60 days pending an investigation of police brutality.

Jackson went so far as to suggest a boycott of the 1993 Super Bowl and other big events until "Gatesism" within the LAPD is removed.

Jackson's speech clearly moved the crowd. Referring to the King beating, which he called a "watershed event," Jackson said that "the aberration was not the violence. The aberration was the video camera." He called for the demonstrators to move to a "higher moral level" by regis-

tering to vote and electing officials who truly would represent them. "This is not just about black or white, it's mostly about wrong and right," he said.

One line that got lost among the many Jackson quotes was his derogatory use of the word "effeminate."

Jackson criticized Gates for statements attributed to the police chief in connection with the King beating, such as calling the videotape "a lousy movie." Then Jackson said, "He (Gates) said of (LA

City) Councilman (Michael) Woo — 'maybe he's opposing me because I yelled at him' — suggesting he is weak or effeminate or does not have character. My friends, we must have an insult level — hold up the wall, but let the Gates go."

A number of lesbian and gay groups will meet again with the Rainbow Coalition to map out future strategies to remove Gates from office and bring attention to police brutality throughout the LAPD. ▼

State Briefs

Gay Law Students Slam Justice's Visit

LOS ANGELES — About 100 gay and lesbian law students and supporters staged a peaceful but noisy protest during the April 5 appearance of Supreme Court Justice Byron R. White at the University of Southern California Law Center's prestigious Moot Court competition in Los Angeles. The students denounced White's appearance as a violation of the school's non-discrimination policy because White authored the *Bowers v. Hardwick* decision in 1986 that upheld Georgia anti-homosexual sodomy laws. In the decision White equated homosexuality to "adultery, incest, and other sex crimes." "Gays and lesbians had to argue in front of a morally reprehensible person who would deny us the same rights as everybody else in our society," said second year law student Mark Mitchell, 25. Besides, Mitchell said, White did a "lousy job." Later that evening Mitchell, and a handful of other gay law students protested at the Law Center's annual Dinner Dance at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills at which White was the honored guest. Wearing anti-Bowers buttons and T-shirts with same-sex kissing, the students risked possible disciplinary action by handing out anti-White fliers at the tables. White appeared unaffected by either protest. —Karen Ocambo

Gay, Lesbian History Month

The Los Angeles Public Library, the second largest institution of its kind in the nation, will be the first major library to establish an annual Gay and Lesbian History Month. Beginning this year, the event will be celebrated each June. Its purpose is to recognize the contributions of gays and lesbians in all fields and to let patrons and employees know about these previously unacknowledged accomplishments. Each branch will be given the opportunity to display pictures, books and other materials by and about gays and lesbians. This effort is being made with the assistance of Gay and Lesbian United Employees, an organization of Los Angeles city employees. Lesbian and gay non-profit organizations wishing to distribute their brochures and fliers to the public through LAPL's 63 branches and Central Library should send GLUE materials in quantities of 1,000 or more. For more information contact GLUE at P.O. Box 13421, Los Angeles, CA 90013-0421.

Jury Awards AIDS Project Damages

A Los Angeles County Superior Court Jury has awarded AIDS Project Los Angeles \$646,800 in damages against Bayly, Martin & Fay, an insurance broker. Bayly, Martin & Fay had refused to honor an agreement to provide health care coverage through CIGNA Healthplans for APLA employees. Bayly, Martin & Fay refused to go ahead with the agreement after receiving unsolicited information from another broker that APLA employees either had AIDS or had tested positive for HIV. California law prohibits insurers from making insurability decisions based upon blood test results that indicate that a potential insured has tested HIV positive. Judge Robert O'Brien had refused to instruct the jury that this law had been violated because the insurer had no access to actual blood test results. Nevertheless the court told the jury it could award damages against Bayly, Martin & Fay if an agreement to provide health care coverage had been made and was subsequently dishonored.

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Attorney Outs L.A. Councilman

by Karen Ocambe

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles attorney Thomas J. Coleman Jr. has made public a letter dated April 8 that he sent to Los Angeles City Councilmember Joel Wachs that begins "As one gay man to another ...".

Coleman said that "outing" Joel Wachs was not the primary purpose of making the letter public. Rather, he said, the issue was one of accountability.

In the recent furor over the videotaped beating of motorist Rodney King by Los Angeles police officers, a coalition of minority groups, including lesbians and gays, have called for the removal of Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates, claiming that he is responsible for creating the climate in which the King beating occurred.

Additionally, African Americans and Hispanics want voted out of office several city councilmembers who represent them but sided with Gates.

Coleman claims lesbians and gays must hold Wachs accountable in the same way.

"Unless we can make our own public officials accountable, we're not going to make any significant changes in this community," he said.

Specifically, Coleman wants a speedy and equitable settlement of former Los Angeles Police Department Sgt. Mitch Grobeson's discrimination lawsuit against the Los Angeles Police Department.

That settlement would also include the recruiting, hiring and protection of openly lesbian and gay police officers. The City Council has the power to resolve civil suits like his.

"We have to put a lot of pressure on the City Council to do this because Wachs is saying the votes aren't there to settle the case. I think we're living in a land of illusion. We get a lot of lip service from these people, we get some funding for some programs, but as far as human decency in the way that city employees and police officers are treated, we don't get any of that right now. And that's what we have to work for," Coleman said.

Wachs and two of the three other city councilmembers the coalition has decried handily won reelection April 9.

As far as "outing" is concerned, Coleman said it becomes a question of whether the end justifies the means, and often in politics they do, he said.

"So we're required to turn the heat up a little because what we're dealing with is a system that is very political and is arguably corrupt and certainly dishonest as far as what they say and what they actually deliver," Coleman said.

Wachs spokesman Greg Nelson said he did not know if Wachs is gay nor has he

thought about any political consequences should the "outing" be accurate.

In Coleman's letter he asks Wachs about the city councilmember's "shriek defense" of Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates while on the other hand allegedly refusing to meet with Grobeson.

"When a well-known and documented bigot like Chief Gates is placed on paid leave, why do you?" Coleman asked Wachs, "jump through hoops of fire to put him back on the job to continue his policies of discrimination? But when one of LAPD's finest officers, Sgt. Mitch Grobeson, asks to meet with you to discuss homophobic bigotry on the force, you refuse to do so?"

Coleman called this a "glaring inconsistency."

However, Nelson claimed that there is no inconsistency if you look at it from a civil libertarian point of view. Regardless of what one personally thinks of Gates, he deserves a due process review, Nelson said.

And though he does not know whether Wachs met with Grobeson, Nelson speculated that Wachs might have considered meeting with Grobeson a possible conflict of interest in a case on which he might have to rule.

Nelson believes that Coleman is frustrated because of



Former LAPD Officer Mitch Grobeson.

the lack of movement on the Grobeson case, a frustration Nelson said Wachs shared.

But Nelson questioned why Coleman wants to attack a consistent friend of gays and lesbians instead of someone who does not share the same point of view.

Coleman again insisted that by "outing" Wachs he is "turning up the heat" to make Wachs more accountable for his actions. He said this must be considered in the context of other minorities calling for accountability from their elected or perceived representatives.

It remains to be seen if the "outing" attempt and televised pictures of Wachs hugging Gates will have any impact on Wachs. ▼

Lesbian Charges Assault at Gay Rodeo

by Sandy Dwyer

arrest," he said.

Miller said that he called the police but that they did not arrive until after Bailey had left.

The dispute began after Bailey saw a T-shirt at a booth rented by TNT Shirts of Houston that she thought was offensive.

Above a crude graphic, were the words, "See Spot Dick Jane." The drawing was of a dog mounting and having sex with a woman.

Bailey said she spoke first with the manager of the booth who refused to take it down. She then went to the information booth and spoke with Camplani who agreed that it was offensive, but said there was nothing he could do.

Bailey said that when Miller arrived, he explained that the T-shirt was a parody of the first grade readers with Dick, Jane and their dog Spot.

She said she felt that such a T-shirt didn't belong at a gay rodeo "where gay men who are dying of AIDS are accused of fucking green monkeys."

Both Bailey and Miller said that they have witnesses to the altercation that will support their separate and opposite claims as to what actually happened.

Bailey, who has retained a lawyer, plans to take it to court. ▼

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Leon McKusick, PhD

FBI to Give Depositions in Buttino Discrimination Case

by Dennis Conkin

FBI officials who revoked the security clearance of a San Diego FBI agent and had him fired from the agency because he was gay will give depositions in Washington, D.C., next month.

The depositions will be made in the case of Frank Buttino, a counterespionage and organized crime expert with a two-decade career as a special agent. Buttino was fired last June, two months after the FBI revoked his security clearance.

Buttino admitted he was gay in Dec. 1988, after the FBI questioned him in response to an anonymous outing.

Buttino continued to work as a agent until Washington

FBI bureaucrats suspended his security clearance in Sept. 1989.

Buttino has filed a class-action lawsuit in San Francisco District Court seeking reinstatement and challenging the agency's employment discrimination against lesbians and gays.

The highly decorated agent has been hearing from lesbians and gays who were fired from the agency or denied employment because of their sexual orientation.

In one case, Buttino notes, a special agent interviewing a gay man who applied for a job told the applicant that "the FBI didn't accept second-class citizens."

In other instances, Buttino said that the agency often didn't ask people if they were

gay if background investigations had indicated they were. The agency, he said, just didn't hire them and used other reasons for denial.

When threatened with investigation, agents and employees often simply resigned, Buttino said.

The FBI was required to turn over to Buttino documents and transcripts related to the agency's investigation of him after he informed them that he was gay. The agency had blacked out some of the information, but a ruling by U.S. District Court Judge Eugene Lynch requires the FBI to provide the information without deletions.

Buttino recently offered to settle the case with the agency if he was reinstated, but the agency rejected the offer.

Murder

(Continued from page 4)

him out. I said, 'You're not so smart now, huh?' I struck his butt with a stick. I took his pants off and struck his ass a couple times and set him back up again," White said.

According to the statement, Gaines began pleading for his life and begging to be let go.

"Larry said, 'Let me out, I swear I won't say nothing.' I said, 'Oh, bullshit. You'd most have to go to the police because you need hospitalization right now.' I asked what we should do. David said kill him. Ted Porter said kill him. I said I don't think we should go that far," White said.

White testified that as Gaines was "begging for his life, I ran over and picked up the knife, grabbed him, cut him around the throat, and threw him to the ground. ... It wasn't a deep cut. I figured if I could make it look like a killing ... then go out. I really didn't know what I was going to do, I was just that gone," he said.

According to his statement, White said that Porter "then grabbed a small hatchet and hit him in the throat and

blood shot real high. I just stood there looking."

White said that Porter and Murdoch were amused by the gore.

"They both started laughing. It became a joke to them," he said.

Gaines was decapitated and dismembered, the parts buried separately. The murder occurred about 6 a.m. May 13. That same day White and Murdoch moved into the National Hotel on Market Street.

White testified that Porter stayed at the site to live.

"Ted had a problem. He peed the bed all the time. Ted pissed the bed every night, so we couldn't have that," White said.

White eventually told Porter to stop staying at the tent site and to "go home with his tricks" for a place to stay.

White and Murdoch lived at the National for some time, until Murdoch left him and disappeared in September.

"I still don't know why he left," White testified.

White knew that Murdoch, from Seattle, had been lovers with an ex-con there before he came to San Francisco. White decided to track Murdoch down.

"I figured that was where he was. I decided to go up there. I didn't give a damn what happened. I figured I was a dead man anyway," White said.

On his way to Seattle, around Salem, Oregon, White was arrested by Oregon State Police after a hitchhiker jumped out of his car and told the officers that White had attempted to rape him at gunpoint.

White then confessed to the murder of Gaines and 15-year-old Ted Gomez, a Polk Street runaway he'd taken to Golden Gate Park and killed by slitting his throat after brutally sodomizing him.

Falzon testified that he did not believe that White showed any remorse for the murders. He said that when White sobbed during portions of his confession, he believed the emotion was related to the rejection he experienced when Murdoch left him.

Falzon's appearance in the case comes as the veteran homicide inspector nears the end of his 27-year career with the Police Department. He is set to retire from the force following the Richard Ramirez Nightstalker case.

The trial continues in Department 28 of Superior Court. ▼

Gay Guardsman Faces Ouster

by Karen Ocambo

LOS ANGELES — When PFC Michael Dull returned home from an American flag raising ceremony in West Hollywood April 5 he found a letter from his Army National Guard post saying that the Army was filing for his separation.

The letter, Dull said, explained that articles about Dull in the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Orange County Register* had "embarrassed the ranks of their command."

Dull's story was part of a flood of recent publicity about the military's treatment of gays and lesbians during the Persian Gulf crisis.

Dull, who had enlisted in the National Guard in 1986, decided that he was gay in 1988 after he had "run out of excuses."

He came out to his family, friends and on the job and finally in 1989 came out to the National Guard. For a year

and a half Dull waited for a psychiatric evaluation, which he got in 1991.

In February, instead of the expected discharge, he received a letter from the Guard notifying him that he was back in the Guard, and that he should attend camp and schedule drill dates. It was this story Dull relayed to the press.

Both the *Times* and the *Register* noted that the Pentagon had called Dull's reinstatement an administrative mistake.

"All I did was exercise my First Amendment rights and share a neat story and they've turned around and fucked me," Dull said in an interview.

He said that as a "five and dime electronics salesman" he has exhausted his own funds working on this case and is now seeking help from Congressmen Gerry Studds, Barney Frank and gay rights advocates such as Lambda Edu-

cation and Legal Defense Fund and the National Gay Rights Advocates.

However, Dull says he is determined "to fight forever."

Ironically the news accounts of the Pentagon's position and the Army National Guard letter rescinding his reinstatement came on the same day that Dull was an honored participant at a Desert Storm Flag raising ceremony in gay-positive West Hollywood.

The ceremony itself was surrounded by controversy. A handful of "neighborhood activists" had long been pressuring City Hall to replace the lambda flags lining famous Santa Monica Boulevard with the American flag.

The same "activists" are also engaged in a petition drive to recall Mayor John Heilman, the only remaining gay councilmember in the city. ▼



Photos 23, 24, 25 reveal discrepancies in police testimony.

(Photo: Geller)

Photos

(Continued from page 1)

wading into the crowd while May continues to pin Becky down.

The newspaper machine at the extreme left side of photo 24 is the San Francisco Chronicle box Barnette supposedly fell from and overturned. It is plainly still upright seconds before Cairns reached the portion of the curb on which Barnette alleges he was standing.

According to Lara, who was just a passer-by and not a protester, Barnette staggered back after Cairns hit him and tripped over a chain holding a series of newspaper racks together. The Chronicle machine then fell over on top of Barnette as he landed on the ground.

Also present in photo 24 is Bryndis Tobin, second from



Police keep the crowd on the sidewalk.

(Photo: Marc Geller)

the left, who is standing in front of Cairns on the curb. Her arm is extended and pointing toward May and Becky, as are those of several other members of the crowd.

Cairns claims that Tobin earlier had run across the street and struck him. That is his justification for clubbing

Tobin's hand and later arresting her. But photo 24 as well as an earlier photograph locates Tobin consistently on the curb opposite the police riot squad, with motorcycle cops riding down Castro Street and separating the two groups.

Geller's pictures, photo 24



Michael Barnette lies injured.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

in particular, support statements by Tobin and others that Cairns without provocation leaped forward, clubbing people's hands before advancing on Barnette.

Community activists are quite pleased at the new evidence. Gerard Koskovich, a complainant in the Oct. 6

case, said, "If the evidence on Cairns was shaky, I would be the first person to say so, but these photos really debunk his only two eyewitnesses. We want the truth established and officers punished for their actual conduct." ▼



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Christian Group Blasts Top Pro-Gay Sponsors

by Rex Wockner

Sometimes the other side does your work for you. The Tupelo, Miss.-based American Family Association watched TV from Oct. 18, 1990, to Feb. 7, 1991, and identified the top eight corporate sponsors of pro-gay programming.

The companies are Church & Dwight (Arm & Hammer); General Motors; Grand Metropolitan (Alpo, Burger King, Green Giant, Hagen-Dazs, Hungry Jack, Jeno's, Pearle Vision, Pillsbury); Pfizer (Ben Gay, Desitin, Unisom, Visine); Philip Morris (Birds Eye, Breyers, Brim, Chiffon, Cool Whip, General Foods, Jell-O, Kraft, Lowenbrau and Miller beer, Marlboro and other cigarettes; Oscar Mayer, Parkay, Sanka, Sealtest); S.C. Johnson & Sons (Agree, Glade, Johnson Wax, Off, Raid); Thompson Medical Company (Aspercreme, Dextrostat, Slimfast); and Toyota. These companies produce scores of other products with lesser name recognition.

The "pro-gay" programs the corporations sponsored were *Cop Rock*, *Doctor, Doctor* (three episodes), *Gabriel's Fire*, *The Golden Girls*, *L.A. Law* (three episodes), *The*

Hogan Family, *Lifestories*, *Over My Dead Body*, *The Simpsons*, *Thanksgiving Day and thirtysomething*.

The AFA was upset that *The Simpsons'* Homer got kissed on the mouth by a man. The group was distressed that *Doctor, Doctor's* Richard told his dad to "go to hell" for not accepting his gayness. Richard also "hit it off" with Charles, a new office manager. In another episode, Richard "thanks God he's homosexual" after observing his straight brother's "desperate love life."

Cop Rock made the AFA list for presenting "outing" as a way to create "positive models for homosexuals." *Over My Dead Body* featured a gay football hero and "made it clear that homosexuality is normal."

L.A. Law showed lesbians kissing, made a "hero" of a gay reporter who "outed" a gay cop, and took the side of a lover battling for custody of his dying partner.

On *Thanksgiving Day*, daughter Barbara "and her lesbian lover figure prominently in many scenes and in the general storyline." *The Hogan Family* plugged safe sex without "noting that

avoiding gay sex is the best protection."

Lifestories "subtly championed" homosexuality in the story of TV newsman Steve Burdick's battle with AIDS. On *thirtysomething* two gays were "portrayed as if their lifestyle is normal. At a party, Russell kisses Peter tenderly on the cheek and they embrace."

The *Golden Girls* was singled out for particular scorn by the AFA for the episode in which Blanche comes to accept her gay brother and his cop lover. *Gabriel's Fire* "promote(d) the normalcy of homosexuality" in an outing episode. A lawyer states that it is "acceptable to be gay in America."

And you thought there was no pro-gay programming on TV. The AFA pressures advertisers by encouraging readers of the 435,000-print-run *AFA Journal* to boycott products and write corporate headquarters.

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has long urged gays and lesbians to write the same sponsors to counterbalance the letters from AFA followers, which sometimes number in the thousands. ▼

National Briefs

Cincinnati OKs Anti-Bias Law

The Cincinnati City Council on March 13 passed 8-1 an ordinance prohibiting discrimination by the city on the basis of sexual orientation, HIV status, marital status and Appalachian regional origin. The effort was coordinated by the Human Rights Ordinance Task Force, an umbrella group sponsored by Gay/Lesbian March Activists, the Greater Cincinnati Gay & Lesbian Coalition, and Stonewall Cincinnati. The ordinance expands existing equal opportunity legislation and covers protection from discrimination in city employment, services and contracts. It does not seek quotas. This victory is part of an ongoing strategy to pass "Human Rights Ordinance II," which would extend protection to the private sector.

Theatre Beats Obscenity Charge

The Bijou Theater, Chicago's gay community and Channel 32 have collectively beat the Chicago Police on obscenity charges. On Feb. 14, the Chicago Police confiscated an adult video from the Bijou Theater and arrested the theater manager for showing obscene material. The film in question was *More Than a Man*, winner of the 1990 Adult Video News Award for Best Gay Film, praised by many critics. Rather than remaining silent, which the management had been doing for years when harassed by the police, they decided to fight back. The management went public. They went to the gay press, the gay community and urged them to protest this harassment, to write to their alderman and to Mayor Richard Daley. TV Channel 32 came to the Bijou Theater and did a story that was fair and unbiased. All obscenity charges against the Bijou Theater were dropped on March 14.

Pittsburgh Bigots Drop Anti-Gay Drive

Citizens for Pittsburgh has abandoned its effort to repeal the city's gay-rights law via a voters' referendum. The move came after the county elections board disallowed some of the signatures on the petitions demanding the referendum and after the gay-community-based Pittsburgh Fairness Campaign announced plans to challenge half of the remaining signatures. Citizens' spokesman the Rev. Jeff Henzler said defending the signatures would simply take too much time. Meanwhile, a gay man, Randal Forrester, was elected chairman of the city's Human Relations Commission in March by his fellow commissioners.

—Rex Wockner

Gay Credit Card Draws Huge Response

The Dallas Gay Alliance Credit Union is drowning in applications for the world's first gay credit card. No fewer than 3,500 requests have poured into Dallas even though most news reports did not carry an address. The credit union is receiving 150 requests a day for the gay MasterCard. Applications have come from nearly every state, Puerto Rico and Canada. DGA's MasterCard is an ordinary credit card with the added advantages of no annual fee and a relatively low 14 percent interest rate. It reads "Dallas Gay Alliance Credit Union" across the top, in large purple letters. The card is available to anyone anywhere, contingent on one's credit history. The one-time costs are \$30 to join DGA and \$10 to join the credit union. One must also make a minimum \$25 deposit in a credit-union account.

—Rex Wockner

House Bill Targets ROTC-Biased Colleges

WASHINGTON — A handful of U.S. House members have unveiled a bill that would bar federal funds from any schools, colleges or universities that bar military recruiters from their campuses. The measure, HR 1651, was sponsored by Rep. Gerald B. Solomon (R-N.Y.). The bill would also "put at risk" federal funds to colleges and universities that prohibit military recruitment on their campuses based on the military's policy of excluding gay men and lesbians from the service. As of April 3, six universities, all in the Chicago area, have barred ROTC programs from their campuses already and another 16 have voted to eliminate their ROTC programs if the policy has not changed by some later date. Three colleges have opted to not bring back ROTC programs and one other opted to not offer an ROTC program, based on the anti-gay policy. A total of 22 colleges and universities have begun serious efforts to bar the ROTC. The University of Virginia at Charlottesville voted earlier this year to bar recruiting by any entity that discriminates on the basis of sexual orientation (including all military recruiting), but reversed itself later under pressure from the state Legislature.

—Cliff O'Neill

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NATIONAL

Democrat in Line For Heinz's Seat

by Cliff O'Neill

WASHINGTON — No sooner had it been confirmed that Sen. John Heinz (R-Penn.) was among those killed in a midair plane disaster April 4, than speculation began as to who would replace him in the U.S. Senate.

And like political onlookers of all stripes, gay and AIDS lobbyists were musing on how any replacement would affect their issues.

Following the death of the three-term senator, Democratic Pennsylvania Gov. Robert Casey announced that he would not discuss a replacement until after Heinz's funeral April 10.

Still, that has not stopped myriad onlookers in Washington and Harrisburg from lining up names for consideration.

Casey has 90 days from the time of Heinz's death to either appoint a successor who would serve until a November 1991 special election or to tap a caretaker who would serve out the remainder of Heinz's term, which expires in 1994.

Casey, a Democrat, could tap any of a number of rising stars from the Pennsylvania Legislature, his cabinet or the state's congressional delegation for the post.

But a number of political considerations ranging from Casey's anti-abortion position to regional interests in the state are expected to weigh heavily in the decision.

Among the names being bandied about for consideration are those of Lt. Gov. Mark Singel, who had already been laying plans for a 1992 challenge to Republican

Sen. Arlen Specter.

Choosing Singel, however, would place a Republican, the speaker of the state House, as next in line for the governorship, something Casey would not likely do.

There has also been a suggestion that Casey might opt to tap Heinz's widow, Teresa, for the position.

Other names making the rounds in Washington include those of Democrats Pete Flannery, a state representative from the Pittsburgh area; K. Leroy Ivis, former speaker of the state House; G. Davis Greene Jr., the governor's former top financial advisor; and William Scranton Sr., an ex-Republican governor and a friend of Casey's.

Also on the list of rumored candidates is House Majority Whip William Gray, who is the highest ranking African American in Congress. Washington sources, however, doubt that Gray would want to relinquish his post in the House and the possible chance to become House Majority Leader or Speaker for an appointment that might only be temporary.

Republicans, meanwhile, have been struck a serious blow by the surprise loss of one Senate seat to the Democrats, a development which is expected to adversely impact their efforts to regain control of the Senate in 1992.

To help counter that, the Republicans are reported to be circling the wagons, already lining up candidates for what is expected to be a November 1991 special election. Attorney General Richard Thornburgh tops the GOP list. ▼

AIDS Activists Defend N.Y. Needle Exchange

United Press International

NEW YORK — AIDS activists gave free hypodermic needles to addicts in a drug-plagued neighborhood to help stop the spread of the deadly virus, their attorney argued in a landmark test of New York's strict needle possession law.

"There are tens of thousands of active addicts on the streets of New York City and the availability of clean needles is necessary to prevent the transmission of HIV," the AIDS-causing virus, said defense lawyer Jill Harris in her opening statement April 8.

Earlier in the non-jury trial in Manhattan Criminal Court, the prosecution opened and rested its case within minutes, arguing the eight defendants were engaged in civil disobedience when they distributed the needles on a Lower East Side street corner.

But Harris painted a more dramatic picture.

"This case is about saving lives," she said.

Harris said former city health commissioner Dr. Stephen Joseph and state Sen. Velmanette Montgomery would testify about the politi-

cal barriers to stopping the spread of AIDS infections among addicts.

The case, intended to test New York state's strict restrictions on needle possession, could prove an embarrassment to the Dinkins administration, which staunchly opposes making hypodermic needles available to drug addicts.

Because having a hypodermic needle without a prescription is illegal in New York, as in 10 other states, clean needles are scarce among addicts, who resort to sharing or buying used needles to inject drugs.

The trial stems from arrests made on March 6, 1990, when ACT UP/New York sponsored a clean needle giveaway on a street corner on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

Ten activists from ACT UP and the National AIDS Brigade were arrested on misdemeanor charges. Authorities later offered to drop the case in exchange for one day of community service and a promise of no further violations for six months. Two accepted conditional discharges. ▼

Drug Abuse Study Focuses On Gays, Lesbians

A study to learn more about alcohol and drug problems within the San Francisco lesbian and gay communities, has been initiated by a consortium of lesbian and gay substance abuse service providers.

The Lesbian and Gay Substance Abuse Planning Group has selected the Sacramento-based research firm EMT Associates to conduct the needs assessment. Funded by the City and County of San Francisco Community Substance Abuse Services, the study aims at discovering how the lesbian and gay communities are affected by drug and alcohol abuse, what services exist for lesbians and gays, and what services are needed to fill the gaps for these communities. EMT has hired San Francisco residents Stephanie Henderson and Bruce Jones as members of the research team.

The study includes a brief anonymous questionnaire that will be distributed widely throughout San Francisco via gay and lesbian organizations, businesses and publications.

The needs assessment will have a particular focus on lesbians and gay men of color, lesbian and gay adolescents and homeless lesbians and gay men, to ensure that the needs of these traditionally underserved members of the communities are included.

For more information, contact Frank F. Davis, Executive Director, 18th Street Services, (415) 861-4898. ▼

National Briefs

AG Urged to Drop Defense of Judge

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund has asked Attorney General Richard Thornburgh to abandon the Department of Justice's opposition to Lambda's motion to disqualify Judge Oliver Gasch from a lawsuit involving a federal court challenge to the United States Naval Academy's discharge of a gay midshipman. At a March 6 hearing Gasch repeatedly used the epithet "homo" to refer to the plaintiff in the case, Joseph Stefan, and to gay people as a group. The Department of Justice has defended Gasch's statements, claiming that the use of the term "homo" does not evidence any prejudice on the judge's part. Lambda also sent Thornburgh an affidavit from Professor John Boswell, chairman of the History Department at Yale University, that was filed in support of Stefan's disqualification motion. Boswell, an expert on prejudice against minority groups, reviewed the history of the word "homo" and its usage in his affidavit and stated that: "When the press has used the word 'homo,' it has typically done so in quoting individuals who are expressing their bias and hostility against gays."

2nd ROTC Cadet Targeted

The Air Force has commenced disenrollment proceedings against a gay Air Force ROTC cadet at Washington University in St. Louis. In a March 6 letter the Air Force notified Robert Schwitz, a cadet who has been named to the dean's list and is in the top 15 percent of his class, that the military was beginning proceedings to separate him from ROTC. Two days earlier Schwitz had advised the Air Force that he was gay, and that he wished to complete his ROTC officer training and "serve as an openly gay man in the United States Air Force." Schwitz, 20, entered the Washington University AF/ROTC program on a full-tuition business scholarship in 1988. After receiving the letter, Schwitz contacted Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund to help him to prevent the disenrollment. Schwitz was notified that in addition to terminating his ROTC scholarship, the Air Force may seek recoupment of the more than \$45,000 in scholarship money it has expended on his behalf. In previous cases, the Department of Defense has dropped its efforts to seek recoupment involving gay cadets. In a related matter, a Washington University ROTC Task Force said on March 1 that the Department of Defense policy barring gay, lesbian and bisexual people from service is absolutely "indefensible, illogical and irrational." Schwitz is the second Washington University ROTC cadet within a year to be disenrolled on the basis of sexual orientation — in the spring of 1990, James Holobaugh was also disenrolled.

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WORLD NEWS

Moscow Paper Wins Libel Suit

by Rex Wockner

The Moscow gay newspaper *Tema* has won a libel suit against the newspaper *Keratyni Rytat*, which falsely reported that *Tema* promotes necrophilia and pedophilia, according to the International Lesbian and Gay Association.

A Moscow court fined *Keratyni Rytat* and ordered it to publish a retraction, ILGA said. Emboldened by the victory, *Tema* Editor Roman Kalinin is moving ahead with identical libel suits against the *Pravda* newspapers, the official organs of the Communist Party.

Last fall the *Pravda* paper ran a story that read, in part: "Where can you find a fresh corpse to excite a necrophiliac? How much does it cost to have sex with a baby? Why doesn't Moscow have official places for men to entertain themselves with little boys, and girls with girls? For only two rubles, *Tema* provides its readers the answers to these and other nasty questions."

At the time, Kalinin said the story was "lies concocted



Moscow's gay newspaper *Tema*.

by Communists trying to embarrass the (anti-Communist) Moscow City Council," which had allowed *Tema* to register as an official publication.

The City Council is supporting *Tema* in its legal actions, according to ILGA. Other newspapers have also come to *Tema*'s defense, including the widely read *Ogonyok*, which flatly told readers not to believe what

they read in *Pravda*.

Meanwhile, *Tema* is battling another, more pressing problem. Kalinin cannot find a printer for issue 4, which has been ready for publication since November.

Previous issues were printed by a gay-friendly plant in independence-minded Lithuania but now that Moscow is showing less tolerance of dissent, the printer has developed cold feet.

In other Soviet news, ILGA reports that authorities are again proceeding with their on-again, off-again sodomy case against Olga Zhuk, leader of Leningrad's Tchaikovsky Foundation for the Cultural Initiatives and Defense of Sexual Minorities.

The case has been perplexing since its inception because the Russian Republic sodomy law criminalizes only anal sex between men and Zhuk is a lesbian.

Lesbian sex is not officially illegal anywhere in the USSR, but many lesbians have nonetheless been subjected to forced drug treatment designed to straighten them out. ▼

Mandela Homophobia

S. African Activist Slams ANC Bigotry

by Rex Wockner

Leading black South African gay activist Simon Nkoli has denounced the African National Congress for failure to speak out against the "homophobia" of lawyers defending Winnie Mandela against charges that she kidnapped and beat four young men she allegedly believed to be gay.

The ANC, one of South Africa's largest black political parties, is headed by Winnie Mandela's husband, Nelson Mandela.

The two victims who have testified so far in Mrs. Mandela's trial say they were kidnapped from a Methodist parsonage in 1988 by Mrs. Mandela and her bodyguards and brutally beaten in Mandela's home for allegedly having had gay sex with the preacher, who often provided shelter for homeless young men.

One of the four men died from the beatings and Mrs. Mandela's chief bodyguard was sentenced to death last year for the murder.

According to the *Independent*, a leading British newspaper, the defense team in the Mandela trial is "playing on deep-seated (anti-gay) prejudice in both black and white South African culture ... placing most of its eggs in the homosexuality basket."

Mandela's lawyers argue that she did not kidnap and assault the four youths, but rather took them to her home



Simon Nkoli

to "protect" them from sexual abuse by the minister. One of the men was below the so-called age of consent.

Nkoli's organization, the Gay and Lesbian Organization of Witwatersrand, blasted the defense assumption that men need to be "protected" from homosexuality and denounced the ANC's silence on the defense's approach.

In a letter to the party, Nkoli said, "It is alarming that the (ANC) has failed to respond to the level of homophobia that has arisen both within and outside this court.

"The ANC's failure to respond raises doubts regarding its stated commitment to the recognition of lesbian and gay rights."

The ANC embraced gay and lesbian rights late last year when it included a national gay-rights law in its proposal for a new South African constitution.

At that time, gay campaigners hailed the ANC as one of the world's most "progressive" political parties. ▼

Czechs Push to OK Gay Marriages

by Rex Wockner

Czechoslovakia's unlikely role as only the fifth nation in the world to seriously consider legalizing gay marriage came about, in part, as the result of media coverage of one politician's foreign travels.

According to the French magazine *Gai Pied*, Czech activists pushing for gay marriage received a big boost last June when the foreign minister took a trip to Denmark. Czech radio/TV journalists accompanying the minister were fascinated that gays and lesbians get married in Denmark, the magazine said, and ended up planting the idea in the Czech public consciousness that equal rights for gays and lesbians goes hand in hand with democracy and Westernization.

Czech activists have already succeeded in lowering the age of consent for gay sex and decriminalizing male prostitution. The remaining immediate goals are a national gay-rights law, clarification of certain AIDS laws and the gay-marriage legislation.

The details on gay marriage in Denmark are now before the appropriate Czech parliamentary committee and a report is due shortly.

Activists are eager to see the proposal move quickly. "The open atmosphere which characterizes Czech public life cannot last forever," said Jan Lany, president of the national gay group Lambda Union.

"The economic situation is difficult, and the Communists are trying to exploit these difficulties to regain a certain influence in political life. This could risk compromising many attempts at progress," Lany said. ▼

AIDS Briefs**U.S. Life Expectancy Declines**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A new government health status report says that people are not expected to live quite as long as in the past. "Health United States 1990" compares 1988 data with previous years, although some categories included more recent data. The report said the 1988 overall life expectancy was 74.9 years, slightly down from the 1987 high of 75 years. The situation was particularly bad for black men in 1988, who were not expected to live beyond 64.9 years, down from 65.2 years in 1987. HIV infection, which causes AIDS, is the 15th leading cause of death: 6.6 deaths per 100,000 people, a whopping 20 percent increase from the 1987 rate of 5.5 deaths per 100,000. The report also found that the number of cases of AIDS in 1990 was 33,215, down from 33,710 in 1989. Of the 1990 total, 18,748 were homosexual or bisexual men. But while there were slightly fewer cases of AIDS among men, more and more women are contracting the disease. In 1990, 3,599 women had AIDS, including 2,042 black women. In 1989, 3,377 women had AIDS, including 1,892 black women.

11,000 New AIDS Cases Reported

GENEVA (UPI) — Another 11,000 cases of AIDS were reported to the World Health Organization in March, bringing to 345,533 the number of cases reported by 162 countries since a cumulative worldwide tally was begun in 1980, the U.N. agency said. Macao and Samoa reported their first cases. As usual the United States, which has the most sophisticated reporting techniques, reported the highest number of AIDS cases with 167,803, up from 161,288 the previous month. The WHO consistently warns that the figures are only the tip of the iceberg. WHO estimated that the true number of cases would be at least three times the 345,533 figure. Other countries reporting major incidence of AIDS were Uganda with 17,422 cases, Brazil (new figures in March) 16,015, France 13,145, Zaire 11,732, Kenya 9,139, Italy 8,227, Spain 7,489 and the Ivory Coast (new figures in March) 6,836.

N.Y. AIDS Nursing Home Proposed

NEW YORK (UPI) — New York City's Planning Commission has put its stamp of approval on the creation of a \$38.6 million, 190-bed nursing home for AIDS patients in Harlem, and Mayor David Dinkins has urged the City Council to do the same. The nursing home, called the Lucy Moses Center, would house the first medical wing in the state devoted to long-term care of children with AIDS. The state will finance the home and Mount Sinai Medical Center, which will sponsor the facility, will give priority admission to Harlem residents. Plans for the facility represent the work of more than a year of meetings between city officials and community residents. The home would open in 1994 if the City Council approves its construction.

HIV No Problem in Utah Prisons

SALT LAKE CITY (UPI) — Utah State Prison officials say HIV is not a major problem in the state's prisons, where HIV-infected inmates have access to AZT and are not segregated from other prisoners. Since the prison system instituted an AIDS testing program in 1989, 45 of 4,795 inmates, or fewer than 1 percent, have tested positive for HIV, officials say. Officials closely monitor anyone found to have the virus, and place infected inmates in cells with single beds. The National Commission on AIDS reported that U.S. prisons routinely mistreat and segregate inmates with HIV, who comprise 2 percent to 6 percent of persons entering the system. The commission's report placed Utah's caseload far below the national average.

T-Cell Monitoring Expanded

The Immune Enhancement Program, a non-profit research group, will greatly expand the use of T-cell monitoring as part of its research protocol, as a result of encouraging preliminary findings. In a recent survey of 70 participants with an average length of participating in the herbal study of one year, 40 percent reported that they had experienced a rise in T-cells (CD4), 30 percent reported that their T-cell levels had remained stable, and only 30 percent reported that their T-cell levels had declined. The study will follow a research protocol using Chinese herbs in tablet form that have been shown to have immune enhancing qualities. IEP's program will start on April 17 and there will be a lecture and orientation meeting on April 11 at 7 p.m. Participants receive herbal consultations, monthly acupuncture visits, herbal tablets, and bloodwork for the cost of \$190 per 12-week cycle.

Under One Roof Meeting

Under One Roof, the Shop for AIDS Relief, has announced that plans are under way to re-open later this year for the holiday season. Last year's store raised more than \$110,000 for the 33 AIDS support organizations that participated by selling their fundraising products. Anyone interested in selling merchandise this year at Under One Roof should attend a meeting on Monday, May 6 at 7 p.m. at the AIDS Foundation headquarters, 25 Van Ness, in the third floor conference room. For more information, contact Bruce Katz at 333-8530.

3-D Map of HIV Component May Lead to Better Drugs

United Press International

WASHINGTON — A new, three-dimensional map of a key piece of an enzyme the AIDS virus needs to reproduce may lead to more precisely targeted AIDS drugs that produce fewer side effects, researchers said April 4.

Reporting in the journal *Science*, a team from Agouron Pharmaceuticals Inc. in La Jolla said it had managed to chart the structure of a vital part of the enzyme, called reverse transcriptase, using complex X-ray imaging techniques.

Reverse transcriptase gives viruses like the AIDS-causing human immunodeficiency virus permanent access to an infected cell's mechanisms by converting viral genetic instructions into cellular genetic information.

AZT, the only government-approved AIDS drug to directly fight HIV, and similar experimental drugs, ddC and ddl, block the early stage of HIV reproduction by interfering with reverse transcriptase activity.

However, those drugs damage healthy cells along with HIV-infected cells, and

can produce side effects that include bone marrow suppression, severe anemia, potentially fatal inflammation of the pancreas and pain in the hands and feet.

No one has yet succeeded in plotting the structure of the entire reverse transcriptase, but the Agouron work is a major step in that direction and may provide researchers a new mark for drugs against HIV.

The region of reverse transcriptase mapped by the California team is called ribonuclease H — a different component of the enzyme than that attacked by AZT and related drugs.

Drugs designed to block a specific piece of HIV enzyme, such as ribonuclease H, are expected to be less toxic than existing drugs, which are broader-acting formulations that were discovered through random searches.

The architecture of ribonuclease H includes a long, deep groove where the major chemical activity is thought to take place.

Agouron researchers speculate it may be possible to design drugs that lodge themselves in the groove, knocking

out reverse transcriptase activity and thereby rendering HIV incapable of reproduction.

However, there may be obstacles along the road to tailor-made AIDS drugs.

Although the enzyme Agouron used for the imaging studies displayed the expected structure, it lacked the activity normally seen in HIV-infected cells.

Another scientist studying ribonuclease H, Stuart Legriece of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, told *Science* that his version of the molecule does show biological activity.

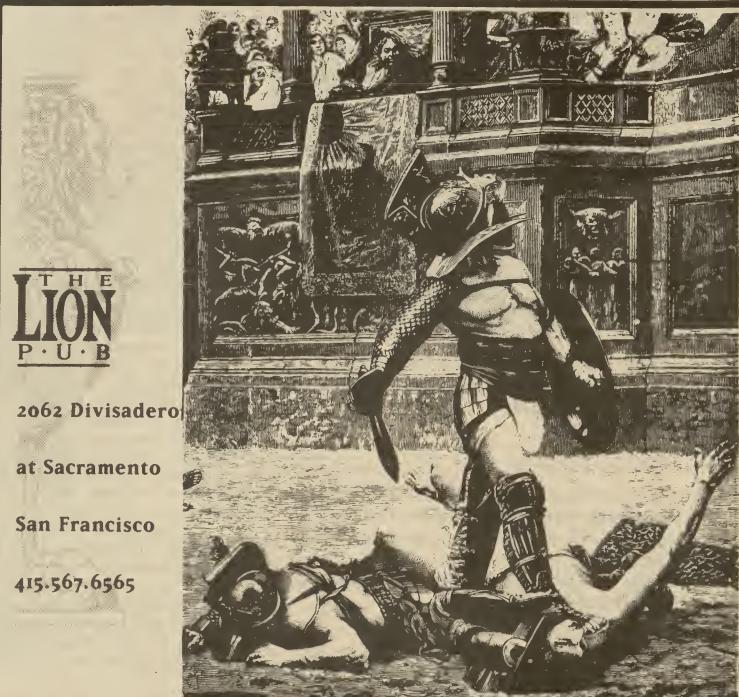
That suggests that Agouron's map of ribonuclease H may not be exactly correct, and Stephen Hughes of the National Cancer Institute said "rigorous proof" that the Agouron structure is correct depends on their molecule being active.

The structure of another crucial HIV enzyme, called protease, has already been mapped, and numerous drug companies are scrambling to develop drugs to block that enzyme, which HIV requires to form new, infectious particles. ▼

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IMMUNE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The Immune Enhancement Program (IEP) is pleased to announce that it will greatly expand the use of T Cell monitoring as part of its research protocol as a result of encouraging preliminary findings. In a recent survey of 70 participants with an average length of participation in the herbal study of one year, 40% reported that they had experienced a rise in T Cells (CD4), 30% reported that their T Cell levels had remained stable, and only 30% reported that their T Cell levels had declined. Although nothing conclusive can be drawn from this type of survey, it does indicate that this area deserves further attention.

IEP's program will start on April 17th, 1991 and there will be a lecture and orientation meeting on April 11th at 7:00 p.m. Participants receive herbal consultations, monthly acupuncture visits, herbal tablets, and bloodwork for the cost of \$190 per 12 week cycle. The low cost is made possible by grants from the Institute for Traditional Medicine, Portland, Oregon.

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- * Clinical diagnosis of HIV induced painful Peripheral Neuropathy

BASIC EXCLUSION CRITERIA:

- * Progressive Kaposi's Sarcoma requiring systemic chemotherapy
- * Cardiac abnormalities
- * History of seizures or peptic ulcer
- * Prior or current treatment with DDI, DDC, VINCERISTINE, or other neurotoxic medications

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

- * ARI GANER MD
Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Jose
408/299-5587
- * BRIAN CAMP RN
AIDS Community Research Consortium
Redwood City
415/364-6563

HIVCare at Saint Francis

Memorial Hospital
Announces Patient
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Following Studies:



A Phase III Clinical Trial of Rifabutin Therapy for the Prevention of Mycobacterium-avium Complex (MAC) Bacteremia in AIDS Patients.

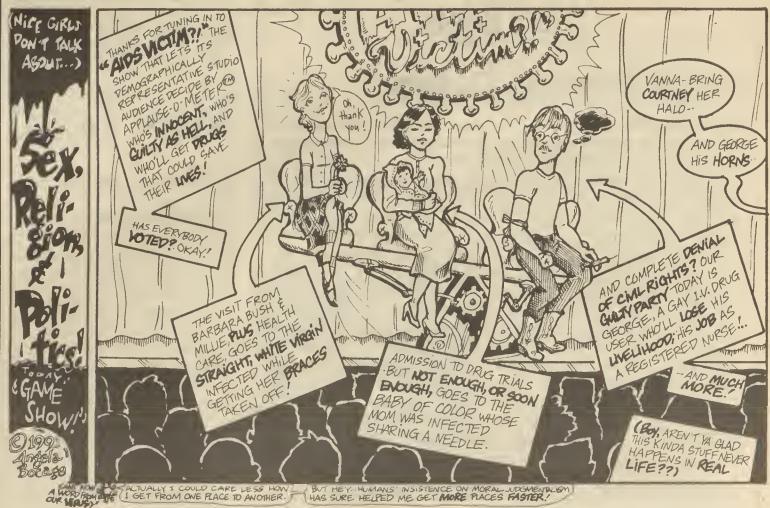
Length: 2 Years

A Phase III, Dose Ranging Study with Maintenance Follow-up to determine the Safety and Efficacy of r-HuEPO in HIV infected patients with anemia induced by their disease and AZT therapy.

Length: 12-week open-label, dose ranging study followed by a 12-month maintenance phase.

For further information about inclusion and exclusion criteria for these and other studies, contact: Drew Catapano, HIVCare Client Coordinator, 415-775-4321, ext. 2512. Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco 94109.

HIV WATCH



Degrees of Innocence

by Michael C. Botkin

Ryan White, the first AIDS poster boy, came to national attention when he contested attempts to keep him out of high school. His struggle became one of the defining issues in the evolving war on AIDS. It pitched popular ignorance and bigotry against medical fact and legal right. It was a near thing, but ultimately Ryan won. And when he won, Ryan established the right of all HIVers to at least attempt to live a "normal" life.

In general, this right is under heavy attack and the whole issue of forced testing and quarantine of HIVers has been resurrected by the debate about whether HIV doctors and dentists should be allowed to practice.

In the first battle, the mainstream came down in favor of Ryan White, who was made into a national, sympathetic figure. This time, the mainstream is pulling heavily the other way, which is why the media has made pro-quarantine HIVer Kimberly Bergalis — "innocent victim" of an HIVer dentist — their new AIDS poster person.

The media tends to allow only one HIVer in the national eye at a time. This official HIVer is always white and heterosexual — that is, an "innocent victim." But there are degrees of innocence, and the trend to favor only the most pure of the innocents bodes ill for the vast majority of HIVers (and, I might add, everybody else outside of the mainstream).

Right to Be Normal

Ryan's fight to go to school was a popular cause. If the major national battle had concerned the rights of gay waiters to keep their food-serving jobs, I don't know that reason and right would have won. But instead people were asked whether a white, middle-class, heterosexual boy from the Midwest should be allowed to go to school.

Opposing his attendance were the hysterical parents of his classmates, who were terrified that their kids would catch AIDS from Ryan. They made a poor showing on national TV: they waved signs with ugly Biblical quotes, yelled nasty epithets, and in general acted like violent bigots.

Down in Florida a family was burned out of their home

when they attempted to enforce their kids' right to go to the local school. Even the fundamentalist churches, which covertly egg on AIDSphobes, generally refused to defend them publicly.

On the other side was virtually every responsible medical and public health authority in the world, universally pronouncing that Ryan presented no danger to anyone. Although the school authorities waffled and tried to avoid taking sides, they eventually had to defend Ryan's right to attend classes. He had a right to be normal, and live a normal life, provided he posed no threat to anyone in the process.

There's the rub. This tenuous right to normalcy exists as a low priority, and only comes into play when no other rights are around to assert themselves; for example, the right to a risk-free environment. And the right to be normal obviously only applies to people who are fairly normal in the first place.

Sins of Our Mothers

The limits of innocence surfaced in a recent poll of concerned parents of school-age children. They were asked a series of questions about allowing HIV children in their local schools.

In general, they didn't like the idea, but how much they opposed it depended on how the kids got HIV. If they were infected by blood transfusion, like most hemophiliacs (for example, Ryan White), people were willing to tolerate their attendance — or at least unwilling to contest it. However, if the kids were infected by a drug-using parent, they were less welcome.

The virus itself doesn't care how it got anywhere. A kid who contracted HIV by taking Factor (a hemophilia treatment) for his hemophilia is neither more nor less contagious than someone who was born with HIV. The risk they present to other students is exactly the same — that is, nonexistent.

The woman who passes HIV onto her kids at birth is universally denounced. Presumably she got the virus herself through either sex or drugs, and thus is a "guilty" victim of AIDS, entitled to no sympathy and few rights.

You would think, though, that her child at least would count as "innocent." But this is not the case, and the offspring of HIVer moms appear

to inherit some of their mothers' guilt.

Frankly, birth-infected HIV kids just aren't normal enough in the first place to claim any rights. For them to have a shot at normality, you'd have to endorse their rights to health care and a decent education. This would cost big money, and most flag-waving Americans don't believe in these rights for anyone, let alone some junkie's kid.

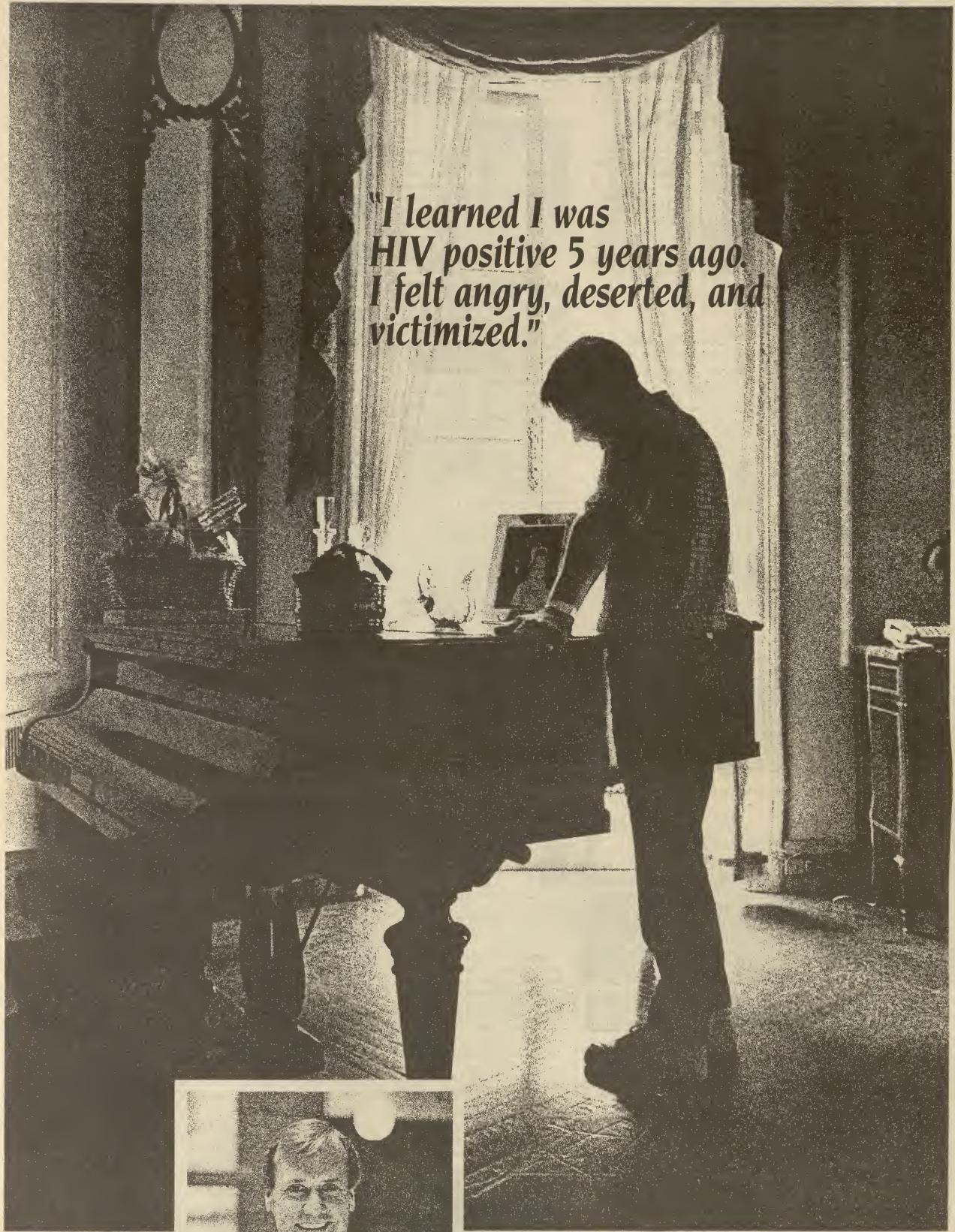
Not Quite Innocent

So what we have are degrees of both guilt and innocence. Gay men and drug users are guilty HIVers. We got the disease from our sins and are expected to pay the price. Normal people, who never endorsed our sinful lifestyles, see no reason to underwrite our efforts to escape the painful and richly deserved consequences of such deviance.

Those who associate with us may technically be innocent, but they seem to forfeit any claim to mainstream sympathy. HIV wives of gays and drug users get little airplay and only grudging sympathy. Perhaps the mere acknowledgment that they ever had sex, let alone with a deviant, is enough to taint them. Whatever the source, they are judged a little bit guilty.

HIVers who got the virus from infected blood are completely innocent. This includes an entire generation of hemophiliacs, plus a few really unlucky surgery customers. They are entirely free of guilt, and their limited numbers provide the Bush administration and the media with a small pool of presentable HIVers who just happen to be white, middle-class heterosexuals. Many hemophiliacs, by the way, are loudly homophobic and denounce the gay community for infecting them. This effectively highlights their own "innocence."

Then we have the children of HIVer moms. A few of these are completely innocent; for example, if mom got HIV from a transfusion or from sex with a hemophiliac husband (but not from sex with a drug user). However, most birth-infected HIVers are the kids of moms who were drug users or their drug-using partners, and thus not quite innocent. ▼



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DEATHS

H. John Betzold

Jan. 22, 1956-Dec. 19, 1990

Harold John Betzold III, a former 12-year resident of San Francisco, died peacefully in his sleep on the morning of Dec. 19, at his family's summer home on Cape Cod, Mass. He slipped away into eternity in the loving arms of his lover/partner David Olearcek. "John" to all who knew him had fought a vigilant and courageous battle with AIDS for the past four years.

John was very grateful to the wonderful staff at St. Luke's Hospital and Davies Medical Center who helped through the rough times when he was hospitalized. John was extremely proactive in managing his AIDS treatment. He moved back home to Cape Cod, Mass., in July 1989, so his family could help him care for his progressing illness. This is where he met David, who devoted himself to John, and helped him in his day-to-day battle with AIDS.

John was born in Brockton, Mass., where he attended grammar and high schools. He graduated from San Francisco State University. Professionally, he was involved in biotechnical research as a manufacturer's representative for a major biotechnology firm in San Jose. He was a homeowner in San Francisco, raised and trained show dogs, and was active in many community groups here and back east. He was a founder and founding board member of the San Francisco Buyers Club, and a volunteer member of the Boston AIDS Action Committee and Cape Cod AIDS Council.

John enjoyed sports of all kinds and

was very athletic. He was blessed with a good physique and handsome looks. His gregarious personality endeared him to all who knew him. In addition to his life partner, David Olearcek, of Massachusetts, John is survived by his parents, Harold and Barbara Betzold of Whitman, Mass., and by four sisters, a paternal grandmother, six nieces and one nephew, as well as many good friends in San Francisco.

Private inurnment services and a memorial mass were held in Whitman, Mass., on Dec. 29. This spring a celebration of life will be held in San Francisco with the scattering of John's ashes at sea. Friends who wish to be notified of the date should contact David Jones at (415) 587-5109. ▼

Noel Chester King III

June 9, 1946-March 16, 1991

Noel died peacefully at his home in San Antonio, Texas, in the care of his lover of seven years, John Georges.

As a resident of San Francisco in the '70s and early '80s, Noel will be remembered for the care, love and good times he shared with his friends.

In addition to John, Noel is survived by his sisters, Sissy D'Annunzio, Donna Alden and Gail Allen; and by his brother, Stuart Gant.

Noel will also be missed by his many friends in San Francisco, Los Angeles and throughout Texas.

The family requests donations be made to the AIDS Foundation of San Antonio. ▼

Kris R. Gulbranson

March 15, 1957-April 6, 1991

Beloved son, caring brother and genuine friend, Kris died peacefully with his family at his side.

Kris is survived by his grandparents, Wayne and Betty Wilkins; his parents, Paul and Shirley; his sisters, Kathy and Carol; Aunt Mary; Aunt Linda and Uncle Alan; along with many friends.

After graduating from San Francisco State in 1981 Kris worked for Hills Brothers Coffee for several years and in 1988 was a real estate agent in West Hollywood, returning to Northern California in March 1990. For the past four months he lived with his family in Galt, Calif. They loved and cared for him until he passed away.

Kris lived life fully and was known for his laughter, zest for life and the way he had of making people feel good about themselves. Kris was proud of his five years of clean and sober living. Among his many passions were driving around San Francisco with the top down on his MGB, affectionately known as "Buhihi," or tooling around town on his motorcycle on the way to the gym for a workout or swim.

Kris will be missed by those who loved him and remembered by everyone who met him. Friends are invited to share remembrances of him at a service at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 13, at the MCC Church, 150 Eureka St. Donations in Kris' memory may be made to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. ▼

Matthew John Casey

Jan. 12, 1959-March 15, 1991

Life Master contract bridge player, Matt Casey, 32, died of AIDS complications at Chris Brownlie Hospice in Los Angeles. A memorial gathering was held at his West Hollywood home on March 17 and his ashes were interred at a cemetery in Cleveland. He is survived by his parents, Eleanor and Jerry Casey; and sister, Peggy Rokita, in Dallas; brother, Paul Casey; and sister, Christine Casey, in Los Angeles; and brother, Pat Casey, in New Haven, Conn. Donations in Matt's memory may be made to Chris Brownlie Hospice, 1300 Scott St., Los Angeles, CA 90026.

A Cleveland native, Casey graduated from Richardson High School in Richardson, Texas, and received his B.A. from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. Settling in Southern California, he earned his law degree at UCLA and was admitted to the state bar. Until the end of 1989 he had been with the law offices of Roquemore, Pringle & Moore in Commerce, specializing in civil litigation.

Strong willed, with a brilliant mind and a wicked sense of humor, Matt Casey was never cut out to be a lawyer. College studies bored him. Simple recreational pursuits were somewhat more absorbing, especially pool, pinball and tennis (as a member of the L.A. Tennis Association) and he did crossword puzzles in ink. He loved to sleep late, devour Velvetta sandwiches and watch old movies.

But his passion was bridge, which he had played since high school, and during the following decade he entered tournaments throughout the nation. A potential world class player, he had won many events, accumulated over 1,000 master points, and been a life master since 1988. Even after being diagnosed with AIDS and subsequently retiring from the legal profession, Casey still traveled to bridge tournaments until he developed retinitis, losing most of his sight. But still he tried, adapting his skills by using Braille cards, but finally gave up in frustration.

During the last year of his life, Casey had the constant support of his family and friends, keeping him occupied so he could still enjoy things that challenged his mind. ▼

James DeWitt "J.R." Robison

Jan. 9, 1952-March 12, 1991

Jim died in Garden Sullivan Hospital, 3 West, at 4 p.m. He was a fighter who finally had nothing left to fight with, after so many years with AIDS.

Dick, a volunteer at GS, eased his passing. Many thanks to him and to members of the wonderful staff there and at Pacific Presbyterian. To name only a few: Dr. Tekeli, Chris, Dan, Sherlyn, Oscar, Michael. And a great thanks and a hug to his Shanti volunteer, Andy.

Jim will be remembered for his bird feeders at GS, his motorcycle, and for his work in the Air Force, Chicago and S.F. baths (Thumper), the lieutenant governor's office, and the CPUC. And remembered for his ability to get a lot of what he wanted, including relatively good health after each hospitalization. He will be missed. Perhaps more than he knew.

For those who wish to do something in his memory, a donation to Shanti Project will help others get the support Jim appreciated so much.

You asked me for this obituary and a quilt panel. You will have both. ▼

Jack Rip Karas

July 27, 1942-April 2, 1991

Jack Rip Karas died in his San Francisco apartment.

Burial services at graveside were held Friday, April 5, 3:30 p.m., at Olivet Memorial Park, located at 1601 Hillside Blvd., Colma. ▼

David Riordan

May 21, 1951-March 26, 1991

David Riordan's family and many close friends gathered at O'Rourke's Bench on Mt. Tamalpais for a celebration of his life on Easter Sunday. Donations in his memory may be made to ACT UP/SF, Project Open Hand, or Family Link.

Here's David's "See Ya Later".

Most of all I liked everything about him. How can you not like a perfect expression of God, Spirit, Love? Perhaps I've reincarnated enough and have now merged with the God-head. Who knows? [I do!] This life has been a blast with being gay as the icing on the cake.

My career of teaching was miraculous (miracles galore). I was blessed with the idea of putting teenagers, between ages 15 and 22, on television, to try to make them feel better about themselves. Guess what. It happened. For 12 years I got to devote my life to troubled teenagers and they actually got to be on professional TV (thanks, Catherine, Yahooh).

I have experienced the gladness and joy of life and I just wanted to tell ya'll and be grateful. —David ▼

Dwayne Allen Crowell

May 24, 1957-April 6, 1991

Dawyne left us after a long and valiant struggle with AIDS. It would be difficult to list all the fine attributes of his sweet soul.

Dwayne was extremely bright, articulate, sophisticated and always optimistic. Singing was his great love. He sang with the Vocal Minority, Berkeley Singers and the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus. He was preparing a solo recital just before his departure from us. He adored opera, and possessed a beautiful tenor voice.

Dwayne's "flying fingers" made him a valued word processor. He loved to study languages and spoke Italian with a passion. He viewed his life as an opportunity to learn new things and to sing new songs. He was an inspiration to those around him, and he truly was a patron of the fine arts in life.

He was preceded in death by his lover, Ken Shafer. He is survived by his parents in Oakridge, Ore., and his brother and sister-in-law in Arizona. He is also survived by countless loving friends and acquaintances in San Francisco.

You are missed, sweetheart. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, April 20, 4 p.m., at MCC Church, 150 Eureka St., SF. ▼

Charles E. Reis

April 19, 1948-March 30, 1991

On March 30 at 9:30 p.m., Charles died at UC Moffat Hospital surrounded by loving friends Bruno, John, Ellen, Michael, Vann, Sean and Paul.

Charles was from New York and arrived in San Francisco in 1974. He last worked for Shearon Lehman. His interests were vast and varied; he was always striving and always attempting something else. When he died, Charles was working toward getting a Ph.D. in comparative literature.

A Shanti counselor, a contributor and volunteer at the Living Room, Charles' own illness did not impede his ability to reach out and help others. His life touched many lives from coast to coast; he had the respect, admiration and love of so many. He will be deeply missed and remembered in our hearts.

We would like to thank the staff of UC for their sensitive and excellent care of Charles.

There will be a gathering of his friends on April 21, 7:30 p.m., 5235 Diamond Heights Blvd., Apt. 109.

Contributions in his name to Shanti and the AIDS Emergency Fund would be welcomed. ▼

John Porter Sansoucy

John is a man surrounded by love. He has wit and beauty and glamour. His mind touches the deepest mysteries and truth is his everyday companion. He

walks in pastels, colors light and soft. And he is as comforting as everdown.

He grows in courage and in wisdom and he lives for important things: for beauty and love and laughter and compassion. He lives for friendship. He knows the value of stone and glass, of forests and the sea. He speaks the language of pain and music.

Or he did. John died on Wednesday, April 3, at 11:15 p.m.

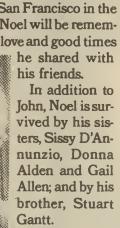
He was a man who loved other men passionately. He loved beautiful men particularly and they loved him. In the end, it was not these men who gathered about him, but loving friends, men and women with whom he shared his most intimate moments, moments that touched the heart and excited the mind. To be with John was to share the joy of loving and the pain of existence.

As he prepared to die, it was said that he was air-hungry. His frail body no longer hungers. Surely, his radiant spirit has returned to its radiant source. His departure leaves the heart vacant.



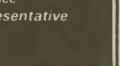
was very athletic. He was blessed with a good physique and handsome looks. His gregarious personality endeared him to all who knew him. In addition to his life partner, David Olearcek, of Massachusetts, John is survived by his parents, Harold and Barbara Betzold of Whitman, Mass., and by four sisters, a paternal grandmother, six nieces and one nephew, as well as many good friends in San Francisco.

Private inurnment services and a memorial mass were held in Whitman, Mass., on Dec. 29. This spring a celebration of life will be held in San Francisco with the scattering of John's ashes at sea. Friends who wish to be notified of the date should contact David Jones at (415) 587-5109. ▼



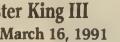
Noel died peacefully at his home in San Antonio, Texas, in the care of his lover of seven years, John Georges.

As a resident of San Francisco in the '70s and early '80s, Noel will be remembered for the care, love and good times he shared with his friends.



After graduating from San Francisco State in 1981 Kris worked for Hills Brothers Coffee for several years and in 1988 was a real estate agent in West Hollywood, returning to Northern California in March 1990. For the past four months he lived with his family in Galt, Calif. They loved and cared for him until he passed away.

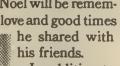
Kris is survived by his grandparents, Wayne and Betty Wilkins; his parents, Paul and Shirley; his sisters, Kathy and Carol; Aunt Mary; Aunt Linda and Uncle Alan; along with many friends.



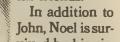
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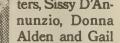
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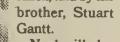
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DEATHS

Donald Kai Andersen

Dec. 8, 1925-April 6, 1991

Donald Andersen, a native of San Francisco and an internationally known musician, died quietly after a long struggle with pneumocystis. He was attended to by his close friend, Al Beck Pauluck.

Donald was a prisoner during the Burma-China conflict in 1944. He played organ at Candlestick Park and Great America Amusement Park. Donald invented the "Bouncing Ball Sing-alongs" which he made famous at the Fox and Orpheum theatres.

Through his lifetime of music, he brought pleasure to people from all over the world, having played on the Delta Cruise Ships, nightclubs and sports events.

He was recently employed at



Daphne's Funeral Home and Brentwood Lodge, where he played organ.

There will be no memorial service and no donations. ▼

Rod Shelnutt

April 13, 1952-March 21, 1991

Rod passed away peacefully in his sleep, after a lengthy ordeal with AIDS, the final four months spent at Davies Hospital.

Rod grew up in the Atlanta area, and went away to school at Notre Dame University, where he majored in art. He moved to San Francisco in 1980 and worked for the phone company for many years, until his illness made that impossible. Rod was an excellent tailor who could whip up anything on a sewing machine, from shirts to overcoats, wedding dresses for his sisters, costumes for Halloween, doll clothes for his nieces and nephews, and exquisitely creative panels for the NAMES Project Quilt. A number of his creations are featured in the book *The Quilt: Stories from the NAMES Project*, with a special tribute to him on page 100.

Rod also loved the latest music. His collection of cow paraphernalia must be the largest in town. He even did a "Cow Theme" Christmas tree one year. Rod also had a flair for storytelling, a tremendous will to live, a sparkling sense of humor, and a love of spending money, which sometimes got him into hot water.

We miss you, Rod. You were one of a kind. "Others may forget you, but not I. I am haunted by your beautiful ghost." ▼



Lawrence Christiansen

Dec. 24, 1937-March 10, 1991

Lawrence Christiansen died of AIDS, but in great spirits. Always optimistic, he made his journey toward death as a happy pilgrimage to a better realm. Those who knew him will know that he is at peace, finally, and that his spirit is always with us. ▼

Obituary Policy

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include an envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.



Richard Burt

March 24, 1954-April 4, 1991

Richard was the art director of the *Bay Area Reporter* for the last five years. He succumbed to AIDS after a long and arduous battle with the disease. He was always upbeat, even at the end when he suffered continuously and was in constant pain.

He was born in Alaska and raised in New Jersey. After he got his Fine Arts degree in college he started his graphics career in the East and eventually went to work for Macy's on Herald Square (34th St.). The company transferred him to San Francisco. He fell in love with his new city and soon left Macy's to temporarily work at the *Bay Guardian*. He decided he wanted to work for the *Bay Area Reporter* and persisted in this goal until he was hired.

During the next few years he methodically set about improving the look of this paper and helped to bring many innovative changes to speed up the process of layout. He wasn't always the easiest person to get along with, but most perfectionists aren't. You could not stay angry with him, however, as his warm personality would get to you.

We remember the day Richard got his first motorcycle. It was as if he had finally found heaven. This bike would become his pride and joy. He felt that he was now a true leatherman at last. No one had the heart to tell him that most leathermen did not own motorcycles. You were a member of the leather community with or without a bike. Richard was a true leatherman. He was warm, caring and compassionate. He was always around to help someone or some organization if he could.

Richard was always concerned that people forgot about the deaths around us. He wondered how many people actually realized how many of their friends and acquaintances had gone the year before. He decided to try to bring that fact to the public. He conceived an eight-page tableau of obituary photos from the *Bay Area Reporter* with a memorial message at the end. The publisher and editors were a bit skeptical at first, but Richard argued well and the rest is history. That issue of the paper hit the streets and was scooped up in-

stantly. It created a furor. Most people had no idea how many of their friends were gone. Some were angry to be reminded; others called to thank him for remembering their loved ones. KQED took up the boards and made his tableau into an introduction on an AIDS special. Richard had made his point. The work earned Richard a Cable Car Award, an award he was very proud of. In his remarks that evening he stressed that we should not forget our friends.

The last year of his life found Richard working less and less as the disease progressed. All of his co-workers became more and more concerned and visited him and did what they could to cheer him on and see to his well-being.

Richard left his cherished leathers to be auctioned off for charity and left some of his paintings to grace the offices of B.A.R. He also left behind two of the most loving parents any child could hope to have. It was Richard's last wish to die at home and his folks flew out to make sure this wish was a reality. Always a fussbudget in life, he left explicit thoughts for his friends and heirs. In addition to his mother and father, Shirley and Robert, he is survived by a brother, Douglas. He will be taken home to a family plot for private burial services.

His warm smile will be missed by all of his co-workers and friends at the *Bay Area Reporter* and by all the leather community.

Dear friend, you will not be forgotten. ▼

Gene Therapy Boosts Girl's Immune System

United Press International

her life.

Tests also showed the child's genetically corrected cells are producing a vital missing enzyme for up to 40 days after each treatment.

Although the experiment involves a rare disease, Anderson has said if it works genetic techniques might usher in a "major new revolution in medicine," providing cures for everything from cancer to AIDS to heart disease.

So far, no serious side effects have been seen in the girl or another 9-year-old girl with the same disorder who started gene therapy at the NIH Jan. 30.

Every person has about 100,000 genes that contain the blueprint for everything from eye color to disease risk. Gene therapy involves inserting genes with correct information into cells with defective genes, or putting in new genes that carry instructions for production of disease-fighting substances.

While it is too early to tell if the therapy is working, Blaese said there have been no serious side effects.

The two children treated by Anderson and Blaese suffer from an immune disorder caused by a genetic defect that prevents production of an enzyme called adenosine deaminase, or ADA. ▼

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Protest

(Continued from page 5)

the attention of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation in Los Angeles after the group's co-chair Richard Jennings read a copy of the screenplay.

Jennings described the film earlier this year as "extremely homophobic" for including two lesbian or bisexual characters, one of whom is a serial killer with a penchant for murdering men.

The San Francisco Bay Area chapter of GLAAD has said it also plans to picket the filming at the Rawhide II during the next few days, along with Queer Nation.

"Basic Instinct" contains several lesbian or bisexual characters who are implicated in a series of gruesome murders," said a GLAAD press release, "and is the latest in a long series of recent American movies that depict lesbians or gay men as stereotypes or as criminals."

Representatives for Carolco Pictures declined to comment on the picketing. Chalkler was unavailable for comment as of press time. ▼

Abbott

(Continued from page 2)

effects on the liver.

Researchers did find, however, that overall blood levels of AZT are reduced by as much as half when clarithromycin is administered.

The significance of this reduction is as yet unknown, but it could mean that PWAs on both AZT and clarithromycin might require higher doses of AZT. On the other hand, AZT is effective at much lower blood levels than originally thought.

Commenting on Abbott's new position Slutsky said, "I don't want to cast doubts on Abbott's motives. They have outlined an extremely inclusive program, but unfortunately they seem to have no idea of how to set it up."

Abbott hopes to get the program off and running in four to six weeks, after it receives government approval. Large questions remain as to how quickly and in what manner it will process applications to the program and through what channels clarithromycin will be distributed.

ACT UP representatives in

a talk with Pernet got the surprising impression that it was up to ACT UP to publicize the program's existence, Slutsky said.

Slutsky nevertheless was optimistic that the clarithromycin compassion-use effort would be successful.

"Abbott seems very open to working with us on the details. It isn't consciously setting up obstacles to making the program work."

In San Francisco, Michael Wright of ACT UP/Golden Gate also was relatively optimistic: "We look forward to working closely with Abbott in ironing out the details. Although we are suspending our actions, the Abbott campaign will not officially be over until the first person with AIDS receives the drug under this protocol." ▼

being conservers." "Good girl?" Can anyone reading this dare imagine what would happen if you were to call Roberta Achtenberg a "good girl"? A smart woman, maybe, but "girl"? Roberta! What ever happened to the movement?

Incidentally, will he, or won't he? Well, I ran into Harry Britt the other evening at Safeway (yes, Harry does shop at Safeway) and he gave me a loud "no" when I asked if he plans to run for the Assembly. (Are you reading this Cleve Jones?)

Republican attorneys had better get their bids in to Gov. Pete Wilson's appointment secretary. Superior Court Judge Ira Brown resigned last week and Judges Jack Ertola and Claude Perasso are expected to do likewise soon, leaving the governor three bench seats in the city to fill.

Elizabeth Taylor and Madonna, two of the country's top AIDS fundraisers, will appear together in Hollywood on May 8 at the premiere of Madonna's new movie, *Truth or Dare*. Two days earlier on May 6, the two superstars will appear at the New York premiere of the film. The Los Angeles event will benefit AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA), the group

dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with AIDS; the NYC event will benefit AmFAR. Both events are nearly sold out with really big bucks expected to be raised.

Meanwhile, Jeanne White, mother of the late Ryan White, is taking to the road and television to promote the late teenager's story of his fight against AIDS. The proceeds from the book, *Ryan White: My Own Story*, will be used to fight the disease. "Ryan's mission was for us to fight the disease instead of fighting gays," she said.

The *San Francisco Examiner* ran an editorial last week claiming that the recent closure of four local bookstores and movie theaters was "an affront to everyone's liberty and freedom to think" and I couldn't agree more. The *Examiner* says that "each individual's right to read what he wants outweighs the concerted power of the government. If Washington (the FBI and federal marshals closed the places) can do this and get away with it, can they next clamp down on books with political messages they don't like?" Asking, "Has Jesse Helms won after all?" the *Examiner* notes that "the government closes bookstores and hardly anyone says boo." To that, I would have to ask, who or what is next? Civil libertarians should be up in arms about this kind of action, but, as the *Examiner* points out, hardly a word by anyone.

In the city last week, the Health Services Board approved a medical insurance poll that would cover companions of unmarried city employees, a benefit long sought by the gay community. The vote came two months after the city began registration of unmarried gay and straight couples as "domestic partners." The health insurance plan needs approval by the Board of Supervisors, but the health board's vote virtually assures passage. ▼

Harris

(Continued from page 3)

having gay-friendly politicians represent us.

"There's an Assembly district right down the line of the lesbian and gay community," she said. "We need to address reapportionment. It's time for the community to put our own agenda forward in our own way, by our own people and in our own words on the state and national level!"

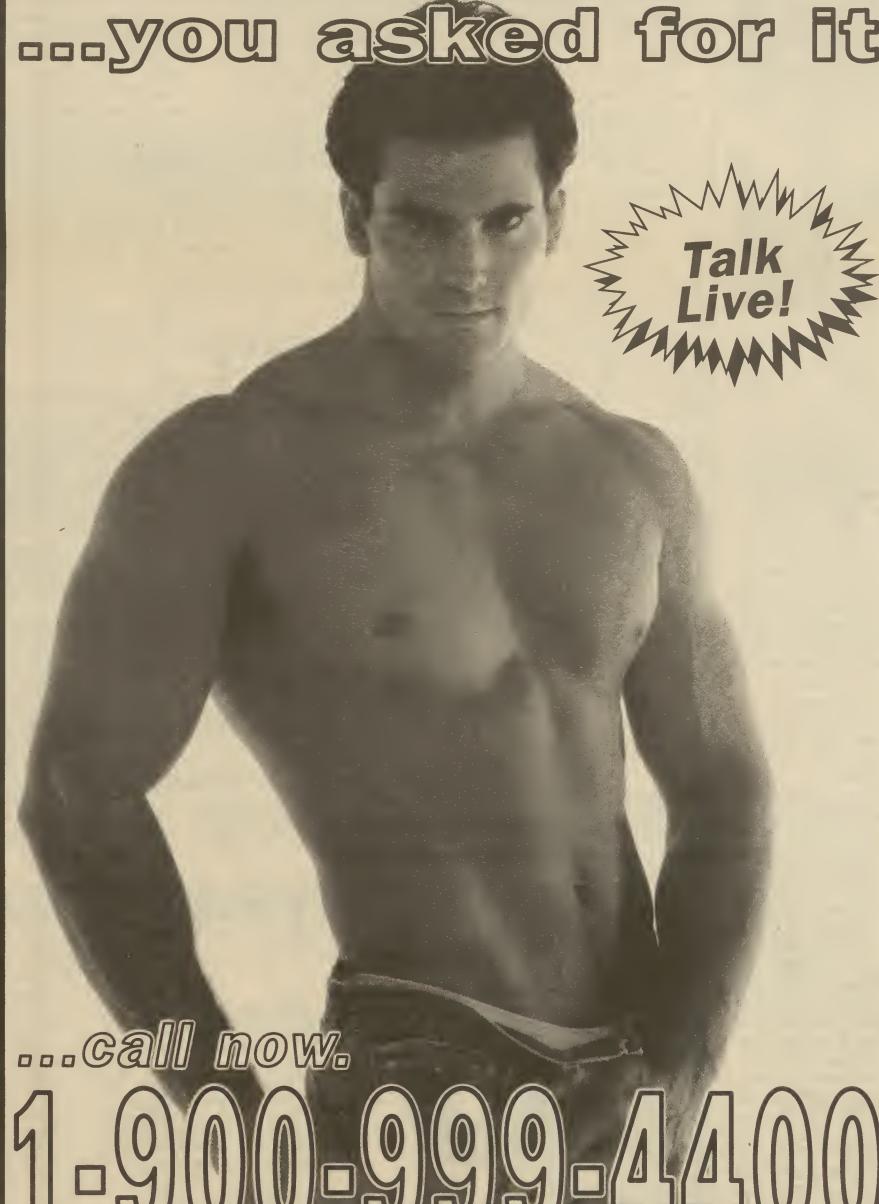
Harris said that she hasn't made a decision whether she intends to file a declaration that she intends to run, just that she's seriously considering her options.

Gay activist Cleve Jones has filed a declaration of intent to run against John Burton for the 16th Assembly District post.

Will a gay man and an activist lesbian square off against each other? Will it split the vote? Stay tuned. ▼

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Gay Activist Appointed To Alameda Rights Panel

by Keith Clark

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has named lesbian/gay rights activist Andrew Ferais to fill a vacant seat on the county Human Relations Commission.

The move comes at a time when hate-motivated crime in the county, including anti-gay violence, is increasingly pre-occupying public officials.

Ferais, 28, was named to the county HRC at the board's regular meeting April 9 at the request of Supervisor Warren Widener.

Widener had been working for several months with leaders of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club to

put an openly lesbian or gay man on the HRC, partly in response to the growing concern over anti-gay violence in the Bay Area.

Ferais is the second member of the EBLGDC to be appointed to a human relations commission in the East Bay this year. Allan Shore, past president of the club, was appointed to the Contra Costa County HRC earlier this year.

Ferais is an administrative assistant with the AIDS Project of the East Bay and a member of the executive boards of the Service Employees International Union, local 616, and the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. He becomes the first

open gay or lesbian appointed to the commission.

Pointing to the murders late last year of two gay men, one in Hayward and another in nearby Fremont, Ferais said, "Certainly the murders (in southern Alameda County) are first on my mind, and it's clearly necessary to have a lesbian or gay man on the Human Relations Commission who can advocate from that perspective because there's certainly a lot of ignorance about it. Although some people would like to hear what our issues are, there have not been voices in the recent past to address gay and lesbian concerns." ▼

Queer

(Continued from page 5)

group, but there is a lot of denial: Everyone tends to push AIDS off as somebody else's problem," said Rolan Shackleford, another 4H member. "We thought we should educate people about where the epidemic was going. The forum broke down barriers between HIV-positive and -negative people so we could see we're not just fighting the disease, but bigotry, too."

After a humorous session of "HIV Wheel of Fortune," which was designed to impress the audience with the epidemic's continuing spread, the seven scheduled speakers made presentations.

Leading off was Bart Casimir from the Black Coalition on AIDS who spoke about his seven-year experience with AIDS as a gay black man and former IV drug user. Another speaker was Valentín Aguirre from the Latino AIDS group CURAS. Aguirre related the necessity of and obstacles to creating interracial, culturally sensitive coalitions around AIDS.

Other panelists included a trio from Bay Positives who spoke about young people's relation to the epidemic, Steve Lew from the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, Jorge

Cortines who described the controversy over mandatory testing of immigrants for HIV and Chuck Fruthey.

Fruthey, the educational director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, talked about promoting safer sex and preventing "relapse"

One straight woman related the difficulties she had in finding any support for HIV+ women ...

while maintaining a pro-sex atmosphere.

Finally Michael Botkin, B.A.R. columnist and therapist, spoke about the isolated, stressful and truly unprotected condition of HIVers who keep their condition secret.

After a break, members of the audience described their

experiences with HIV, several of them elaborating on Botkin's points.

One straight woman related the difficulties she had in finding any support for HIV+ women after discovering last summer almost by accident that she was infected. A man, describing the depressing condition of his life in the mid-'80s, wondered, "Did I get HIV as a form of suicide? ... If so, it's not as quick as it used to be."

"Ending the oppressive silence that persons with AIDS, ARC and HIV have had to evolve in was one of the main points of the forum," commented Carson, who noted that even within Queer Nation there was some implicit blame placed on HIVers for getting the virus. "The event was an attempt to create a safe place for people with HIV to be visible and share their stories," he said.

Both Carson and Shackleford considered coalition building with other groups an important future strategy.

"We offer a particular point of view and can give assistance on specific issues," Carson said.

The forum was not an attempt to pooh-pooh the party, but a step toward keeping the epidemic, especially as it relates to youth and minority communities, as an ongoing topic of discussion and action. ▼

Greater Bay Briefs

AIDS Documentary Wins Peabody

The Los Altos Story, a documentary based on the personal impact of three people stricken with AIDS produced by the Los Altos Rotary Club, has been awarded a Peabody Broadcasting Award, the electronic media's equivalent of the Pulitzer Prizes. The documentary follows three men connected with the Los Altos chapter of the club who have been affected by the epidemic, beginning with club member Walter Singer's announcement at a 1989 club meeting that he had contracted AIDS. Another Los Altos Rotarian, Greg Betts, shortly afterward told his fellow club members he also had contracted the disease. A third Rotarian, Dushan Angius, known as "Mr. Rotary" because of his promotion of the club in community affairs, convinced the local club to begin *The Los Altos Story* after learning that his son, Steve, had come down with AIDS. The video began production on the day of his son's death. The documentary won an ACE Award earlier this year, the cable television prize equivalent to an Emmy, in the public affairs category. The Los Altos Rotary Club is now raising funds to distribute copies of the video to the more than 25,000 Rotary Clubs throughout the United States.

Keith Clark

Queer Nation/South Bay Takes a Hike

The recently formed Queer Nation/South Bay will be taking its first big public action Saturday, April 13, by walking right into the anti-gay fundamentalist den and trying to lie down — or at least take a hike with — the Christian lions. Derek Schwarz of QN/South Bay, which formed this February, said the group is planning on meeting members of the Los Gatos Christian Church congregation for an advertised nature hike in some of the rolling South Bay hills. In part, Schwarz said, QN/South Bay wants to confront members of the church congregation head-on for some "good old-fashioned queer visibility" and also to challenge the group's use of public — and free — advertising for what is billed as a "public event" to see if all the public is in fact welcome. The Los Gatos Christian Church was one of the primary opponents of county anti-discrimination ordinances that were soundly rejected by voters in 1981 and is also affiliated with the Anaheim-based Traditional Values Coalition. Schwarz said the church regularly takes advantage of space offered for public notices in the *San Jose Mercury News*. "If their events aren't really open to the public, including the queer public, then they shouldn't be allowed to have access to that free advertising space," Schwarz said. QN/South Bay can be contacted at (408) 993-3966 for further information.

— Keith Clark

Gay Pride Week at San Jose State

Getting the jump on almost everyone, San Jose State University's Gay Pride Week celebration began earlier this week. Among the events were a panel discussion "Who Are Those People, Anyway?" and a slide show by the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California entitled "What Your History Prof Wouldn't Tell You." San Francisco Supervisor Carole Migden will be the keynote speaker at an April 11 meeting of the university's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance at 4:30 p.m. at the Loma Prieta Room in the Student Union followed by a reception. There will be an April 12 showing of the film *Pink Triangles*, a documentary on the political oppression of lesbians and gay men, at noon in the Costo Noan Room in the Student Union. The campus festivities culminate Saturday, April 13, with Terrace Dance II at the women's gym located at 7th and San Carlos streets on campus from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The dance has a \$3 door charge, and you must be 18 years of age or over to attend, as with all SJS campus dances. Christine Schmidt of the Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance said SJS is holding its Gay Pride Week events in April so as not to conflict with finals, spring break and other regular campus activities. You can call (408) 236-2002 for further information on any of the remaining events which are all wheelchair accessible.

— Keith Clark

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Talk LIVE to other believers

Health

(Continued from page 1)

inal measures have turned out to be insufficient.

In light of a projected municipal deficit of \$117–158 million in the coming fiscal year—the Mayor's Office instructed the Department of Public Health to develop a plan to compensate for losing an additional \$8 million (level II cuts) or \$17 million (level III cuts) in funding reductions.

Meanwhile, the state of California is also facing a huge geyser of red ink. Next year's state deficit could amount to \$13 billion or more.

The state's problems are not taken into account by the local health department's plans, which will have to be revised when the impact of state budgetary reductions is felt. In fact, the local plans cannot even achieve the city's \$17 million target.

Raymond Baxter, San Francisco's new health chief, came in with a reputation as a great organizer. He claimed that he could function in an era of austerity by increasing the health system's revenue and efficiency so that little actual service would be lost. The present budget process is his first big test.

Baxter used what should be long-term strategic principles to meet a financial emergency. His mix of revenue increases (through greater use of grant money and more aggressive collection of fees from those deemed able to pay one way or another), reductions in administrative personnel (through "consolidations" and elimination of vacant positions) and increases in worker productivity is designed to have little impact on direct service to patients. The main exception is in adult dentistry, which will be greatly curtailed.

The actual effect on the health department's clients remains to be seen. For example, Baxter proposed eliminating cost of living adjustments in contracts with outside agencies. But will these agencies really be able to provide

the same level of service next year at this year's cost?

Will the two remaining administrators in the Division of Mental Health after "consolidation" of duties really be able to do the work that five previously did? Or can San Francisco General Hospital's morgue absorb the loss of three attendants?

"We run the risk of winding up like New York, with a wonderful system that has no one to operate it," commented Health Commission member Pierre Ludington after Tuesday's meeting.

Baxter himself, who comes from the New York public hospital system, painted a gloomy picture of adjustment after adjustment that will have to be made as the state and city's patchwork of tax schemes fails to keep up with demands for public services.

"Increased revenues, administrative savings and indirect cost reductions would ideally be reinvested in improved or expanded services ... rather than offsetting declining federal, state and local funds," he has stated.

Baxter also qualified the deepest cuts as "intolerable." "These reductions virtually ensure that we will not be able to achieve the goals we set for ourselves," he told the Health Commission in his report.

One of the least affected areas in the health budget is the funds devoted to the AIDS epidemic. This is be-

cause most of that money comes from special appropriations.

Among those sources, the new federal Ryan White CARE Act stipulates that its funds are to go to new programs, not to replace local budget allocations. This provision largely protects AIDS items from pruning this year.

Still, department plans indicate that some of the \$6.4 million Ryan White money already allocated to San Francisco for 1991 will be used to offset losses at San Francisco General and in AIDS educational efforts.

One health department source told the B.A.R. that San Francisco is about to receive another \$6 million from the Ryan White appropriations. These funds will come from the money awarded on a competitive basis to eligible areas.

"Only San Francisco and Boston were able to develop a detailed proposal for the money in time," he said.

While this \$6 million will undoubtedly be good news to all the agencies waiting hand in hand for the extra dollars, it is really a one-shot deal. Next year, more cities will be in a position to ask for the funds. No one knows how much money Congress will devote to AIDS at that time, with the national government facing deficit problems, too. Down the road, the AIDS budget will have its own hurdles to cross. ▼

From Facts To Fashion
Check Bay Area Reporter
Every Week

Gay/Lesbian Programs

Degrassi High: Bad Blood

Sunday, April 14, 10 a.m., KQED Ch. 9: The first episode of this 13-part series confronts common fears and prejudices about AIDS and about who is at risk for contracting it. The award-winning *Degrassi High* series focuses on a group of tenth- and eleventh-graders, addresses a topical issue while advancing ongoing subplots. In this fourth and final season, the students deal with AIDS, sexual abuse, academic problems, drugs and suicide as well as first kisses, dating, slumber parties, talent shows and the prom.

Here to Stay

Thursday, (2nd, 4th) 10 p.m., SF Viacom 25: Interview with Kim Larsen, cast member of *Theatre Rhinoceros'* upcoming musical, *Cradle and All*; segment on Key West as a gay and lesbian vacation resort.

Messiah Theatre Presents

Friday, 10:30 p.m., SF Viacom 25: Dejohn Messiah and entourage create a whirlwind video montage on the cutting-edge of gay artistic expression.

Outlook

Monday, 10 a.m., Newark Cable 6
Tuesday, (every other week) 10:30 p.m., San Jose Cable 2B
Wednesday, (1st, 3rd) 9 p.m., PCTV (Oakland, East Bay)
Thursday, 8:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Friday, (2nd, 4th) 7:30 p.m., Los Altos, Cupertino Cable 30;
Saturday, (1st & 3rd) 8:30 p.m., Palo Alto, Menlo Park,
Atherton, East Palo Alto, Stanford & Ladera M-PAC Cable 6.
Community input welcome, call (408) 920-1786.

Electric City

Sunday, 10 p.m., SF Viacom 35
Tuesday, 10:30 p.m., Mountain View Cable 30
Wednesday, 8 p.m., SF Viacom 35; 9:30 p.m., Berkeley
Cable 29, Alameda Cable 59, Piedmont/Emeryville
Cable 47: A funeral of massive proportions on
"Strawberries & Pain"; also Mr. Rogers gets busted.

Hibernia Beach

Sunday, 7 a.m., KITS 105.3 FM: Covering issues of concern to gay men and lesbians.

Fruit Punch

Wednesday, 10 p.m., KPFA 94.1 FM: News, interviews, reviews.

Diagonally Speaking ... It Ain't Necessarily Straight

Monday, 12:12:30 p.m., KSJS 90.7 FM San Jose: Gay, lesbian and bisexual programming in San Jose.

Naming Names

Alternate Thursdays, 9:35 a.m., KALW 91.7 FM San Francisco: Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/New York's program about the defamation of lesbians and gays.

This Way Out

Wednesday, 3:30 p.m., KALW 91.7 FM San Francisco: News magazine featuring gay and lesbian issues.

KRON Special Sensitive, A Hit

On March 23 KRON-TV, Channel 4, broadcast *Growing Up and Coming Out*, a special program on lesbian, gay and "queer" youth.

The program was divided into three segments, which focused on the frustration and suicide of a young gay man, Bobby Griffith, as told by his mother, Mary; LYRIC, a lesbian/gay youth support group; and two young members of Queer Nation/San Francisco.

The program was sensitive and engaging. According to KRON, it was popular too. *Growing Up and Coming Out* earned its time slot's highest rating with more than 600,000 viewers and generated phone calls to the station that ran 100 to 3 in the show's favor.

Congratulate KRON for a program that may have saved some lives and that certainly made young lesbian and gay viewers feel better about their opportunities and futures.

Write to Amy McCoombs, President and General Manager, KRON-TV 4, 1001 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco, CA 94109 and to David Salinger, Director of Programming, and Lisa Heft, Community Relations Director, at the same address, or call 561-KRON (561-8019).

Mayor Dinkins

When the Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization in New York City applied to march in that city's St. Patrick's Day Parade, they were told by the parade's organizers that there was no room. When Mayor David Dinkins said that the parade could be lengthened to accommodate extra contingents, the Ancient Order of Hibernians still demurred, asserting that such a change would be "impractical." After continued pressure from the Mayor's Office, the parade organizers relented.

Dinkins marched with ILGO rather than at the head of the parade, and witnessed what he called "despicable" behavior by onlookers who shouted obscenities and threw beer cans.

Dinkins later told the press that he had been proud to march with the lesbians and gays, and that the abuse had reminded him of the hatred exhibited toward civil rights advocates in Montgomery, Ala., and elsewhere in the 1960s.

Dinkins deserves our praise for his support. Write to Mayor's Office, City Hall, New York, NY 10007.

The March 17 issue of the *Oakland Tribune* included a column by regular columnist Anna Quindlen that supported ILGO and the mayor and criticized the homophobes. Praise the *Tribune* by writing to Editor, The *Oakland Tribune*, P.O. Box 24424, Oakland, CA 94623.

"Gay Tide of Catholic-Bashing"?

An ugly postscript to the St. Patrick's Day story is that it spawned a spate of articles about, as *U.S. News and World Report* titled it, "The gay tide of Catholic-bashing."

Writer John Leo of the magazine condemns gays for an "intense campaign ... against the Roman Catholic Church," in spite of the fact that the vast majority of les-

bians and gays oppose disruption of church services and many gay organizations strongly criticized last year's well-publicized protest inside St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, to which Leo refers.

Moreover, New York's St. Patrick's Day Parade is not a Catholic rite! It's a celebration of Ireland and her people, including Irish and Irish-American lesbians and gays!

The magazine has a long record of anti-gay opinion pieces written by Leo, including one last year in which, defending Andy Rooney's statement that "homosexual unions" lead to early death, Leo wrote, "Everybody knows that." When GLAAD met with Leo last year, he told us that he opposed efforts to "legitimize homosexuality" because someday a "cure" might be found!

U.S. News and World Report has a crappy record of responses or even objective news stories that address the same topics. Write to Mor-

timer B. Zuckerman, Editor-In-Chief, *U.S. News & World Report*, 2400 N Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20037-1196.

Newsweek made the same mistake of confusing public anger at the treatment of lesbians and gays in the parade with anti-Catholicism. Cardinal John O'Connor is quoted as criticizing the press for deriding Catholics "who dare to publicly uphold their faith." Does that mean those who "dare" to spit on gays?

Write to Richard M. Smith, Editor-In-Chief, *Newsweek*, 444 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10022.

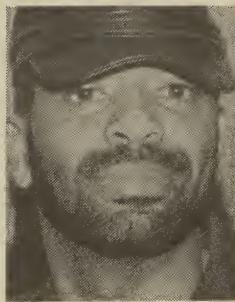
'20/20'

The March 29 edition of *20/20*, ABCTV's investigative news magazine, addressed the military's exclusion of lesbians and gays.

The segment included interviews with Joe Steffan, who was dismissed from the U.S. Naval Academy despite his excellent record; Perry Watkins, who was denied the opportunity to reenlist de-



Joseph Steffan



Perry Watkins

spite having been previously permitted to reenlist as an openly gay man (Watkins recently won a settlement that includes back pay from the military); and Kate Dyer, aide to openly gay Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) and point-person among congressional staff members on this issue.

The segment was reported by John Stossel and produced by David Sloan. Stossel compared the ban on gays to the former ban on blacks, and suggested that an executive order could reverse the contemporary ban as an order from Truman did the former ban.

Although the tone of the coverage was generally en-

lightened, Barbara Walters was compelled for some reason to twice say, "There's validity on both sides (of the issue)."

The March 22 edition of *20/20* focused on Donna Lynn Jackson, the former Army Reserve Support Specialist who was separated from her unit just before it left for the Gulf because she told her commanding officer that she was a lesbian.

Write to *20/20* and praise them for addressing this issue. Address letters to *20/20* Audience Relations, 30 West 67th St., New York, NY 10023 or call Audience Relations at 212-887-3606. ▼

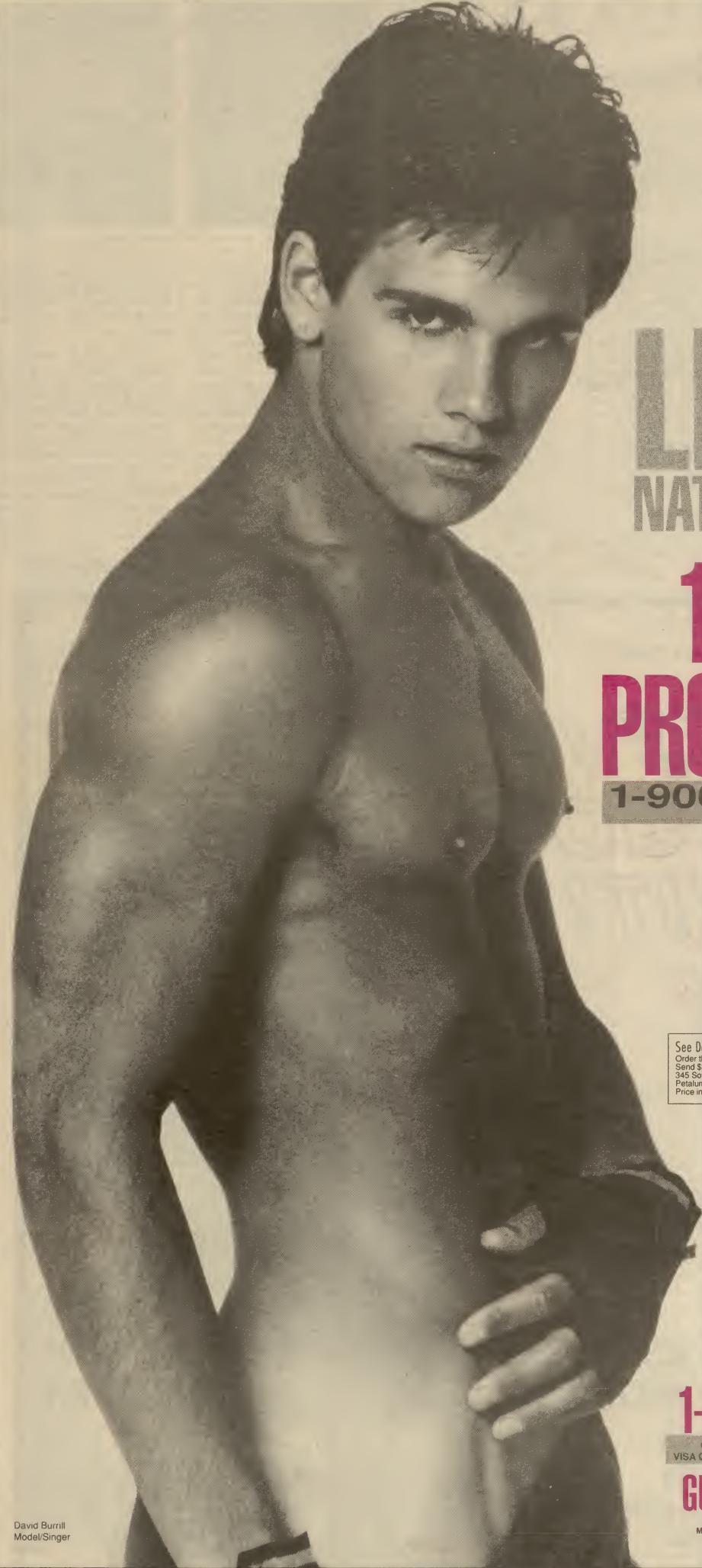
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Fighting Asian
Stereotypes
p. 31Joe Goode, with Elizabeth Burritt in *Remembering the Pool at the Best Western*.

(Photo: Marty Sohl)

Up Front & Honest

Joe Goode Tells the Truth And Audiences Say 'Yes'

by Robert Julian

Tall, square of shoulder and round of face, Joe Goode prowls cat-like around his apartment, unwilling to come to rest until the coffee is poured. With a strong, prominent chin and almond-shaped brown eyes, Goode's features are a jumble of mismatched contradictions. His voice a soft, conspiratorial whisper, belies the powerful body he has choreographed into an "overnight sensation" — only two decades in the making.

The word on the street is remarkably unanimous. Veterans of the San Francisco performing arts scene describe Goode as either "talented," "very talented," "truly talented" or "exceptionally talented." There is, however, less agreement as to the specific nature of this talent. Joe Goode is alternately described as a dancer, a per-

formance artist or a choreographer. Goode himself reacts to his categorization with a certain benign disinterest.

"I'm a writer, a choreographer and a *performing artist*," he asserts, "but I'm not really a performance artist. I'm too theatrical for that term to accurately apply. Real performance art is anti-theatrical; it's a way of life. Performance artists push the bounds of what theatre is. I'm much more traditional in my approach. But if you want to call me a performance artist, I can live with that."

A more specific definition of Goode's work is being offered at Theater Artaud, April 11-21, when the Joe Goode Performance Group reprises *Remembering the Pool at the Best Western*. Like all of Goode's local performances, his most recent offering is destined to sell-out — and lose money.

"Our local productions are all money losers. It's impossible to make money here because we must rent the performance and rehearsal space, as well as pay the dancers, technicians and designers. Income from ticket sales never covers our expenses here, even though we always perform to packed houses. We make up the money we lose locally by going on tour."

(Continued on page 37)

Who Are Women Athletes Today?

Mariah Nelson Burton on the Sports World

by Nancy Boutilier

A college basketball coach, a middle-aged rower, an Olympic gold-medalist, a wheelchair tennis player, a professional golfer, a bodysurfing instructor, the 11th finisher in the 1988 Ironman triathlon, a college first baseman and the four-time winner of the 1,049-mile Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race — what do these people have in common?

Mariah Nelson Burton has collected their stories, and others, as a measure of the status of women's sports in America. In *Are We Winning Yet? How Women Are Changing Sports And Sports Are Changing Women* (Random House, \$20), Burton takes stock of changes taking place on athletic fields in the wake of the 1972 education amendments to the Civil

Rights Act, most importantly, Title IX, forbidding sex discrimination.

I talked with Mariah while she was in San Francisco last week speaking to the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

★ ★ ★

Nancy Boutilier: What assumptions did you take into the writing of this book?

Mariah Burton Nelson: My question was "Who are women athletes today?" I'm 35, and I've seen sports through that pre-Title IX transition. I wanted to see who are the women in sports and what are their issues.

One interesting thing that happened when I started talking with women, I kept seeing men. I kept pushing them

out, at first. I didn't want to know the husband's opinion, or the boyfriend's, or the coach's who happened to be a man, or the father's influence.

I thought this is a women's sports book, and then I thought, "Oh, this is part of the story." There are men influencing women athletes — sometimes helping them, sometimes hurting them. So it became a book about how women's sports are now coed sports to a large degree.

We are no longer in the segregated women's gym where, despite often inferior facilities we still had the ability to define for ourselves the rules of the game, the philosophy of the game, and the spirit of the game which was deliberately different from men's sport. So my question became, "Now that we're integrated, how does that work?"

(Continued on page 44)



New book assesses the state of women's sports. Pictured above: Women's relay team members Ana Chang, left, and Michele Demby.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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OUT THERE

Gay and Funny Tidbits From Around the World

by Daniel Mangin and Kevin Davis

TWO LIKE US: A prominent comedian's daughter and the daughter of a politician are reportedly quite the item down Hollywood way. Seems these two gals, who've had a few run-ins with the law, much to the embarrassment of their papas met at a drug rehab center. Half the proof here is in the pudding; the other half is in longevity.

DARE WE TAKE CREDIT? For the tempered lead to Mike Royko's piece on *World News Weekly's* "outing" of Saddam Hussein: "This isn't meant to be a criticism of the man. That would violate today's standards of sensitivity and political correctness. But can it be that Saddam Hussein is gay?" Royko has been criticized in the past by GLAAD and other gay groups for violating those standards.

IT ONLY TOOK THEM A FEW MONTHS TO NOTE THIS CHANGE: *The New York Times*, which waited well into the '80s to use the word "gay" in stories about homosexuals, proved to be, if not up-to-the-minute, at least timely with its April 6 story about the appropriation of the word "queer" by militant and other members of our community. Story duly reported the pros ("the word's shock value gives it political potency") and cons ("use of the word by homosexuals would only give greater license to heterosexuals to employ degrading language") and outlined some of the major issues. Nice piecemeal all in all.

The editors of the *New York Times* were apparently in a tres gay and/or queer mood this past weekend. Following the Saturday story were three pieces of interest: Quentin Crisp's as-

"Gym teacher's pet!" taunted the cheerleaders, running down the hall of Cambridge High.

"Yeah?" Leslie Saphire called after them.

"Better latent than blatant!"

"Stupid heteros," Leslie thought, taping a Martina Navratilova pinup to her locker door. When would they learn that screaming and gyrating in short pleated skirts for the voyeuristic pleasure of inferior-sex adolescents was a mysogynistic trap cloaked in a cultural tradition.

Later (about to be raped) Leslie reflects:

her mind drunkenly grasping for a memory from a *Women Against Violence Against Women by Men Who Hate Them* ovarian ("ovulars" are seminars with the male part of the word altered).



N.Y. Times feature for John Waters

essment of *Paris is Burning* and an interview with Dirk Bogarde in the Arts and Leisure section; and a profile of John Waters in the Sunday magazine.

THE GREAT DEBATE: The March 24 *Santa Cruz Sentinel* asks, "Cheerleaders: Are They Athletes or Airheads?"

Del Rodgers of KSBW says, "They are athletes. They compete just like we do. The only difference is they don't wear protective gear. They have to run and lift and jump. Endurance is a big thing. What's tough about their sport is that they have to smile the whole time."

But Bettina Aptheker, professor of women's studies at UC Santa Cruz says, "It doesn't matter how athletic the women or girls are, cheerleading will remain 'intrinsically sexist' as long as women remain on the sidelines cheering for men."

PIKE PIQUES?: Laurie Pike's "Leslie Saphire Teen Lesbian Adventure Series," in the April issue of *National Lampoon* starts out funny, then careens into the (possibly) politically incorrect. Two excerpts follow:

Turns out Judy's pa was gay.

TABLOID OUTING OF THE WEEK: The April 9 *Globe* reports that "Feisty Sarah Jessica Parker is fighting mad over rumors that the man in her life — screen hunk Robert Downey Jr. — is gay. Downey, Parker's steady beau for seven years, was named by a militant gay rights group, ACT-UP, as a closet homosexual.... A source familiar with the gay underground in the Los Angeles area alleged: 'Ru-

(Continued on page 33)

COMMUNITY

Gay Men's Chorus Opens 13th Season A Bold 'Perestroika!'

by Mary Richards

The Gay Men's Chorus celebrated spring with a bold stroke when they presented their *Perestroika!* concert April 5 and 6 at the First Congregational Church. Their 13th season opener featured the extraordinary talent of soprano Deborah Voigt and classical renditions mixed with folk music sung in Russian. This daring departure showed the chorus at its best — enlarging its repertoire with a real sense of excitement while displaying the maturity to make it a success.

The chorus' "Celebration of Russian Song" was a blend of works by internationally famous composers such as Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff and Mussorgsky, intertwined with short, delightful folk songs and ballads from the Soviet heartland.

The appearance of
(Continued on page 39)



Gay Men's Chorus' new season opened with *Perestroika!* concert.
(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

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REPORTER

'Alternative' Benefit Clarifies 'Miss Saigon' Issues

by Alexander Chee

In an attempt to address proactively the issues raised in the protest of the Lambda Legal Defense Fund's decision to continue with its benefit performance of *Miss Saigon*, Asian Pacifica Sisters (APS) and the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) held a benefit screening on April 6 of the documentary film *Slaying the Dragon*, on the construction of racist media images of Asians and Pacific Islanders. The screening was followed by a panel discussion of the connection between these representations in the media and the difficulties faced by those misrepresented.

The decision to show the film as a benefit came as an alternative protest to Lambda's decision to proceed as planned, with only a mailing to ticketholders informing them as to the show's sexist and racist content and an offer to refund tickets. As Lambda had cancelled the site of the original APS/GAPA protest, the San Francisco reception planned concurrent to the New York performance, protest organizers saw their own benefit as an opportunity to not only address Lambda's actions but to aid those organizations fighting the damage done by *Miss Saigon* and the like.

Rather than simply criticize Lambda's choice of fund-raising events as harmful, APS and GAPA in turn put together a benefit more appropriate to the aims of a civil rights advocacy group like the Lambda Legal Defense Fund spouses.



Nancy Otto was one of event's organizers.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

Silence, a Bay Area group organizing around violence directed at Asians and Pacific Islanders, and the Asian Women's Shelter, a Bay Area refuge for battered Asian/Pacific women.

Paul Shimazaki, a GAPA member in attendance, characterized the sentiment of many behind the night's event. "I don't feel I have to justify my outrage at the situation Lambda has put us in. These alternate arguments we are being asked to consider are patronizing. They expect us to be good Asians and let this slide by. The fact that they even planned the event just goes to prove how invisible our issues are to these

people."

Coalition-Building Hurt

There is little doubt that Lambda Legal Defense Fund's actions in the past six months have hurt the growing movement toward coalition-building between people of color and the more mainstream gay community. Supporters for the protest include the Community United in Response to AIDS/SIDA (CURAS), the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, the American Indian AIDS Institute, the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention of Black and White Men Together, United Colors of Queer Nation, Queers United to Examine and Eliminate Racism and Sexism (QUEERS) and GLAAD/San Francisco Bay Area. The San Francisco Human Rights Commission wrote a letter of concern to Lambda, and Audre Lorde, as quoted in *Outweek*, refused to accept Lambda's Lambda Liberty Award until "(Lambda) can make the bold and necessary step of severing its connection to, and support of, the play, in which case I would be pleased to accept Lambda's award. For Lambda to associate itself with a benefit performance of *Miss Saigon* ... is a sadly divisive error. At best it demonstrates a gross insensitivity to the real-life situations of our South Asian sisters and brothers, and therefore to the rights of all people of color, to determine our own images as well as our own destinies."

The Lesbian and Gay



Anna Mae Wong, seen here in *Thief of Baghdad* (1924), was one of the earliest in a long line of stereotypical Asian/Pacific Islander characters.

(Photo courtesy of Los Angeles Center of Asian American Film Studies and Research.)

Community Center in New York canceled a benefit performance they had organized for October, for which they had begun advertising as early as April 1990, in response to requests from the Asian/Pacific Island community.

Nancy Otto, one of The Box event's organizers, felt that media coverage of the incident this far had been artic-

ulate, but said, "We are waiting to see the response from the community. Everyone is bound to have their own opinions but what's important is that there is no confusion around what we (APS/GAPA) are doing here tonight." Ana Calibiran, a member of APS, added, "There is some misunderstanding as to our de-

(Continued on page 39)

Film Chronicles Asian Stereotypes

by Alexander Chee

Slaying the Dragon is a documentary by Deborah Gee that explores the historically racist media portrayals of Asians and Pacific Islanders as well as the lived consequences for Asian/Pacific Americans.

The chronicle begins with the career of Anna Mae Wong, the original Dragon Lady and "exotic villainess/vamp," includes interviews with Nancy Kwan (*Flower Drum Song*, *The World of Suzy Wong*), who speaks candidly about her difficulties trying to find work in film, and shows recent attempts at giving Asian/Pacific people their own voice in films like *Return to Manzanar*, a story of the forced internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II and the effect it had on one woman's life.

Gee examines the news shows' attempts to create a Connie Chung look-alike out of one Bay Area newscaster, and presents the progression from white women with taped eyes like Katharine Hepburn in *Dragon Seed* (1944) to the women of *Dim Sum* (1986). Gee is successful in showing that the image of Asian/Pacific people has al-

ways reflected the demands of power, has been mediated consistently by the sexual insecurities of white men and will remain this way until Asian and Pacific people become more active in the arenas where these images are made.

But as Chinese-American director Wayne Wang (*Chan is Missing, Dim Sum*) points out, "It's hard to create ... characters away from these stereotypes, because then you have the other extreme, a new cardboard cut-out, and just as two-dimensional."

Slaying the Dragon is distributed by CrossCurrents Media, part of the San Francisco-based National Asian American Telecommunications Association. The film, which was made in 1988, and which has received renewed interest in response to the *Miss Saigon* controversy, is "one of the most popular titles in our collection," according to CrossCurrent's sales manager Michael Jeung. The film will play at the New York Arts Festival in June.

Editor's note: CrossCurrent Media (346 Ninth St., 2nd Fl., San Francisco, CA 94103; 552-9550) has 40 films about or for the Asian/Pacific community available for purchase or rental. ▼

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VIDEO

Fanta-Sex and Peri-stroking

by Marc Huestis

A sympathetic co-worker asked me an interesting question the other day.

"Hey, what's the difference between straight and gay porn?"

I had to think for a second.

"Well, straight porn seems to mirror reality. At its best, gay porn celebrates fantasy. With the 'real world' being so singularly unappealing these days, I'll take the fantasy eyeland of queer smut anytime!"

A Mouthful

Fantasy rules in Chi Chi LaRue's *Read My Lips* (Swallow this, George Bush). There's no plot, no dialogue, just pure fanta-sex. Four simple scenarios are connected by a wack-off soloist.

The first is by far the best. Done a la Calvin Klein in classy black and white, lip-smacking leatherman Damien meets rubber god Steve Lyons. This sizzling match-up mixes together some of my favorite fetishes — latex, leather, tattoos, piercings, etc. It's profoundly sensual. I could almost feel/hear/taste Mr. Lyon's tight/squeaky/bitsweet rubber shorts. Oh baby!

And speaking of Steve Lyons, he's the hottest new star on the scene since I started this gig. He's one fine, healthy motherfucker!

The rest of the tape is not nearly as electrifying. There's a '50s-looking, well-oiled physique model being worshipped by a long-haired, peacock-plumed love slave, an ill-defined underwear set and another fantasy featuring future ex-husband Steve Lyons, some flowing curtains and lots of cum. The problem with each of these scenes is that they're shot in sepia tinges and gauzy tones. I understand the aesthetic, but it's hard to see anything.

Still, what I saw, I liked. Particularly Mr. Lyons. A porn star is born. ▼

Read My Lips

Directed by: Chi-Chi LaRue
Produced by: Hard Body Productions
Cast: Steve Lyons, Damien, Michael Parks, Steve Kennedy, Aaron Scott, Alex Thomas, Christopher James, Toro Kelly

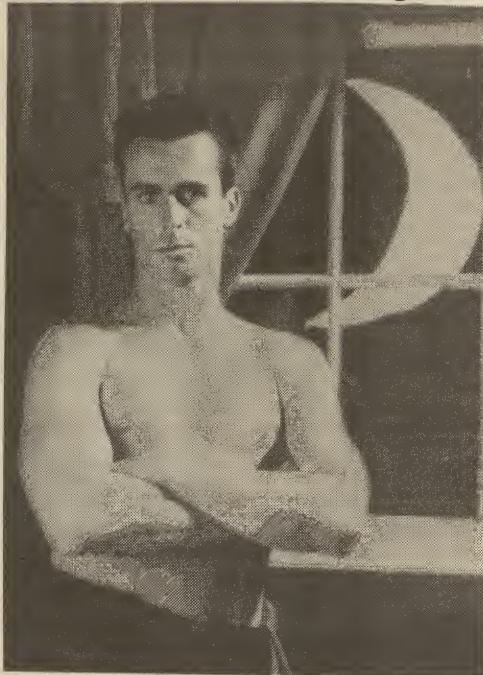
From Russia With Love

Once in a blue moon, there comes a tape so original, so endearing, so smart and so sexy that you have to get down on your knees, open wide, and scream, "Hallelujah!"

Toby Ross' *Once in a Blue Moon* is cause for just such a celebration.

The first part of this fantasy quartet puts new heat into the Cold War. Bent into shape pilot Luc Bender is shot down and captured somewhere inside Mother Russia. Communist interrogator Chris Harts is after some of his "big secrets." After a good, stiff whipping, our Cosack softens up and waxes philosophically.

"Imagine a world without armies, and tanks and killing... Tell me, you big beautiful captain, what are you searching for (wink, wink)?" They share a quick Molotov cocktail, and before you



Chris Harts shines in *Once in a Blue Moon*.

can say glasnost, there's a big thaw in international relations. Peri-stroking begins.

"I'll show you what being a comrade is all about. ... I'll stick my big fat American dick up your tight Russian ass" (Thank god, America's still on top!) So our delectable hairy-legged captain thrusts his condom-coated missile deep inside Communist territory. A picture of Lenin smiles approvingly. You've got to see this scene to believe it. And believe me, it's red hot!

Meanwhile, back in the good old U.S.A., two capitalists share deep, dark secrets.

"I'm gay ... yes a homosexual!"

"Why did you wait so long to tell me?"

Clothes off, the two get going. It's super romantic. "You're beautiful!" "Don't go," "Enter me" are all spoken with delicate simplicity and authenticity. Don't laugh, it's really lovely. When they finally fuck each other, I flashed back to the exquisite ecstasy and pain of my first time. Thanks.

Next, the scene shifts from heavenly delight to squalid damnation. Right-wing Supervisor Roach is condemned to "hell of his own making." A homeless man, a broken gay athlete, a Robert Mapplethorpe whip stuck up his ass and an unseen hellhound haunt him. Too bad this scene is a bit much. It has some sly elements, and is certainly politically relevant. It's just not very sexy.

Still, never fear. Mr. Ross saves the best for last. Lonely prisoner Bill is about to be set free. His three-year pen pal nervously awaits. When the two finally meet, there's a quiet longing. The car breaks down "in the middle of nowhere." Actually, it's camped out in a shooting studio replete with a fake silver moon and a bright sky glistening with stars. In one fell swoop, Toby Ross has created enchantment, recalling the



Smacking Oral Anal
HARD BODY PRODUCTIONS
Read My Lips

magical films of George Melies.

The mood is set, and when the two finally kiss, it's soft, succulent and sweet. Best of all it has a context. There's a sadness to this prisoner, a vulnerability. You believe he hasn't had sex in over three years. His lovemaking is filled with emotion. He touches, holds and caresses his pen pal, all in tender silence. Lots of time passes before there's even a hint of a hard-on. Then the dicks pulsate, beating in tandem with the heart.

Even the ritual of putting on the condom is gently erotic, giving the men the safety and freedom to go where they want to go. And when they lift off, they fly, reaching for the moon and shooting straight to the stars.

I loved this scene, and for that matter this tape. It has moments of pure inspiration and, dare I say, genius. Congrats, Mr. Ross, for a job well-done. May you live for many moons, and keep the fantasy alive! ▼

Once in a Blue Moon
Directed by Toby Ross
Produced by Bijou Video
Cast: Luc Bender, Chris Harts, Marcus Braun, Zeff Ryan, Dean Pike, Jim Montana

FILM

'Blood in the Face' Comes to the Roxie

Fear and Laughter

by Warren Sonbert

An astounding new documentary on the American Nazi/White Supremacist movement entitled *Blood in the Face* bows at the Roxie for two no-doubt gasp-producing weeks (April 12-25). As compiled, filmed and edited by Anne Bohlen, Kevin Rafferty and James Ridgeway, this is no-holds-barred material of devastating impact — it could be used in schools to demonstrate appalling and maniacal ignorance.

The 16mm film interviews, or presents archival footage of, an ultra right wing so extremist that they think "Jerry Falwell is a Jew." This give-them-enough-rope interview conceit yields hilarious disbelief rapidly followed by fear-choked laughter. To see the stupidity in the subjects' eyes is almost a sufficient calming antidote to the mindless verbal hate endlessly spewed forth.

By strategically shunning "the other side," a balanced portrait, the filmmakers pointedly prove that they have no need of reason or measured coherence to refute these ideological hate messages. Young and old, man and woman, folksy and rabid, the varied subjects accumu-

late a chilling diatribe of misplaced bile.

At one picniclike rally, a little boy clad in Marine fatigues totes way way in the background (behind the interviewed primary focus subject) a machine gun. A sweet-faced young woman (in her initial presentation she could be mistaken for a Shirley Temple stand-in) eventually reveals that her mate "got into trouble" — i.e., he masterminded the murder assassination of Denver radio talk show host Alan Berg. There's a Man of God "pastor," who comes out like a fusion of Jimmy Stewart and Otto Kruger's fatherly fascist in Hitchcock's *Sabotage* (1942) and is infinitely more frightening than the out-and-out hatemongers generally portrayed throughout this film — or, as they like to refer to themselves, "lovenoners."

Scream of a Speech

George Lincoln Rockwell, the self-proclaimed Lenin of the American Nazi Movement, has a scream of a speech affirming indeed that there are homosexuals within the Nazi movement (asked in the '50s by a TV interviewer for whom negativity and homosexuality go hand in hand with fascism). Rockwell responds that they've all been



Blood in the Face is a new documentary that charts Nazi terror, including that practiced on gays.

cured because if there's one thing he won't tolerate "it's a homosexual who is a homosexual!" Soon after, one cracker-warns a pair of frisky humping dogs — upon learning that they're both male — that they "better be careful."

All these chuckle-producing moments are charged with afterglows of horror as the film reveals the extent to which these mind perversions have infiltrated American mainstream existence. Klan

member David Duke, narrowly defeated in his bid for governor of Louisiana, is shown being given a standing ovation by that state's senate. This of course makes some kind of sense when one recalls that body's support of the nation's most stringent anti-abortion bill: Repressions go hand in hand.

After a teary-eyed Ku Klux Klan wedding ceremony — replete with torches and burning crosses for the bash-

ful, smitten bride — or blithering paens of escalating paranoia from the organized Christian TV evangelists, a line like "Sieg heil! — let's go eat!" is a mixed-message, disturbing tag of comic relief that sums up this film's flat-against-the-wall power. ▼

Blood in the Face
Roxie Cinema, April 12-25
863-1087

GAY ACTION NETWORK

Out There

(Continued from page 30)



Pedro Almodóvar, seen here in *Labyrinth of Passion*, is making a new film, *High Heels*.

For those who can't separate cinema from reality, Downey's dad didn't help his son's cause much with the hints of domestic B&D with Ralph Macchio in the early goings of the loath-some *Too Much Sun*.

In the April 9 *Star*, when asked if he's had "intimate relationships with other men," he says, "How dare you."

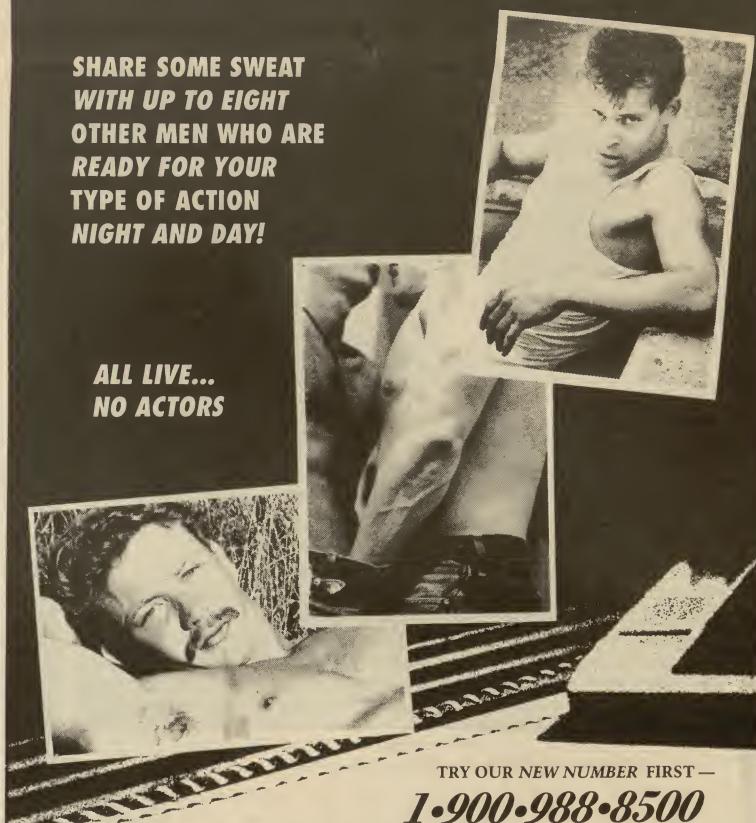
LIPSTICK TUNERS: In the April issue of *Allure*, the beauty magazine, makeup artist Kevyn Aucoin does a computer makeover for Tracy Chapman and k.d. lang. He gives k.d. a pink triangle earring and Tracy a burnt orange foundation.

COMING SOON TO A THEATRE NEAR YOU: *Variety* March 11 reports that Pedro Almodóvar's next film will be called *High Heels*. Could this mark a return to familiar territory? Also due out soon, *Where Angels Fear to Tread*, based on a book by E.M. Forster, will have a royal charity premiere May 29 in London. The film opens June 21.

ONCE IS AN ACCIDENT, TWICE MEANS YOU LIKE IT: Merrell Noden writes in the April 8 *Sports Illustrated* about the NCAA Men's Swimming and Diving Championships. "But all of a sudden, Texas senior Shawn Jordan began waving frantically at the

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BAY AREA REPORTER APRIL 11, 1991 PAGE 33

Tale Spinners' 'Homework' and 'Dangerous Beauty'

Missing the Extra Charge

by Deborah Peifer

Of course, I'm the person who thought the problem with *Nicholas Nickleby* was that it wasn't long enough, so the idea of following a full-length play with a second full-length piece was not at all daunting.

But the experience of seeing *Dangerous Beauty: Love in the Age of Earthquakes and AIDS* and *Homework* was not a positive one, and the reasons for that may have more to do with philosophical differences than with the works themselves.

Tale Spinners Theatre is a company dedicated to the transcription and dramatization of oral histories. The focus is on local stories and especially "the creation of a living theatre, portraying a history that popular culture has forgotten." As a lesbian feminist, I am all too aware of the dominant culture's success at making our lives invisible, at erasing our stories, and so I am theoretically in support of this effort to find and tell and preserve more of the stories of those the patriarchy chooses to disregard.

But I am also a practitioner in the theatre, and I have to consider the adage that, although living is the basis of all acting, life itself is not theatre. Indeed, one of the things I have always liked about theatre is that it is different from real life.

Theatre is not simply our unadorned stories. Theatre demands, it seems to me, choice and shaping and an effort toward making these stories theatrical, whether through heightened language or narrative manipulation or by any of the myriad tricks and treats we have in our theatrical grab-bag.

Untheatrical Realm

My problem with these two works from Tale Spinners is that, although they may represent actual persons and their actual stories, they do not, to me, enter the realm of the theatrical. They are, at once, not at all real, in that these are actors playing roles on a stage before an audience, and not theatrical, in that they are the unshaped language of the real world, missing the extra charge that comes from the theatrical rather than the real-life moment.

This enormous caveat in place, it falls to me to respond to these pieces. Since their authors are referred to as playwrights, I am within acceptable bounds, I think, to respond to these works as plays. And it is as plays, as works designed to be inspired by actors on a stage before an audience, that these pieces fall short.

Dangerous Beauty is Lee Jenkins' celebration of, and polemic for, bisexuality. It is the story of Tom, an HIV-positive gay man, who falls in

love with Annie, a bisexual woman, who has been in love with him since their college days. After lengthy foreplay and philosophizing about the nature of desire and of the value or imprisonment of labels, Tom and Annie end up, maybe, together.

The problem, of course, is that it is very difficult to tell the difference between a celebration of the bisexual life and the old "gay boy meets lesbian and they straighten each other out" that we've been seeing in straight theatre and film for a lot of years. And since the deck is stacked toward the desired, happy ending, the difficulties surrounding their sense of betrayal by the unseen Joey that seem the heart of the work are glossed over.

Tony Sciuillo's *Homework* tells the stories of five working women from the Tenderloin and their efforts to make their trick pad a home. The need to create family, even in situations that seem to work against personal connection, seems to me to be one that could have been explored at much greater depth. I am not sure that we need any more "hookers with hearts of gold," but I do think that the stories of these women and their needs might have provided a basis for a fascinating play.

Both pieces suffer from heavy-handed direction and scene changes that are frequently longer than the scenes they interrupt. I have



Joan Mankin, left, and Richard Talavera perform in Tale Spinner Theater's *Dangerous Beauty*.

(Photo: Amy Kumler)

to think that a unit set and movement between acting areas would better serve the episodic nature of both plays and provide the audience with much less time to think about why the pieces aren't better.

Tale Spinners seems to me to be an idea in search of bet-

ter execution, and the two examples of the work being performed at Climate provide the proof of that assertion. ▼

Homework
Dangerous Beauty
Climate Theatre, through May 5
626-9196

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Lawrence Hyman

The second one-act of the evening is Lorenzo Buford's *Fragments*, performed with wonderful style by Ross Hanna. The piece is also an exploration of gay life, but in this case the story is told with a circularity of pattern that is compelling.

The fragments of the title are the remembered moments in the sexual history of the narrator. With great panache, Hanna plays adolescent in the throes of passion, and adult in the search for true love. Although less experimental in form than Hyman's piece, Buford resists linear narrative as he weaves a multi-patterned fabric of a life filled with joy and torment.

I particularly enjoyed Hanna's interaction with the on stage-imaginary audience, as well as his pointed interaction with the actual spectators as

(Continued on next page)

Taking Aim at Tinseltown

You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again
by Julia Phillips; Random House, \$22.00

by Robert Julian

Blown ass-backwards from a Hollywood cannon, Julia Phillips manages to emerge as the first not-so-young literary lion of the decade. Her autobiographical missive, *You'll Never Eat Lunch in This Town Again*, decimates Tinseltown with an explosion of venom that leaves no survivors — not even the author herself.

There's a ton of inside dirt on a variety of writer-producer-director-actor types, and you can find the most sensational passages splattered across the pages of any newspaper. There are items like an offstage, off-key Streisand remarking, "Funny ... I only seem to be able to sing for money." But the one-and-only star of this particular show is Phillips herself. Is it self-revelation or simple exhibitionism? With writing this powerful, who cares?

As Oscar-winning producer of *The Sting* (also *Taxi Driver* and *Close Encounters*), Phillips rides the crest of Hollywood success until self-destructive behavior and cocaine addiction torpedo her career. Downwardly mobile in the mid-'80s, she is dropped by a succession of business managers with lines like, "We service rich people, and you are no longer a rich person." Having nothing more to lose, Phillips takes poison pen to paper and spews forth the real goods on Oz, an egomaniacal, backstabbing, greedy, superficial town where "writers and women are the niggers."

Phillips' education and intellectual prowess make her a menace to almost everyone. Combine this with visionary artistic sensibility and ball-busting ambition and you get a quadruple threat destined to produce as much disaster as success. But where prose is the product, Phillips' lightning short sentences and pithy observations certainly dazzle.

Penis Envy

The author jumps from screenplay format to prose, alternately referring to herself in both third and first person. "This is *not* my movie" be-

comes Phillips' personal mantra in *Lunch*, as she describes the poverty of vision in Hollywood in particular

The way Phillips throws around words like "queen" and "faggot" may bring accusations of homophobia, but she seems to use them without value judgments ... but if I were to hazard a guess ... I'd peg Phillips as a closet lesbian.

and the universe in general. "The state of the world was pretty much whose dick was bigger?" So what else is new?

Phillips frequently muses, "If I had balls ...," concluding her speculation with lines like "... I'd be King Vidor." This blatant penis-envy stuff could not only keep a psychologist busy for decades, but it raises lots of questions for, and about, the author.

The way Phillips throws around words like "queen" and "faggot" may bring accusations of homophobia, but she seems to use them without value judgments. Phillips is a dyed-in-the-cashmere, anti-Reagan liberal who makes no apologies for same. But if I were to hazard a guess, and I will (if one doesn't want this sort of thing, one would do well to avoid the Literature-as-Confessional school of writing), I'd peg Phillips as a closet lesbian. In all her diatribes, lesbianism remains the one subject she scrupulously avoids. So sue me.

A life lived in sexual denial might explain Phillips' extraordinary level of self-

loathing. I don't think I've encountered a more tortured soul in print since Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar*. As for Phillips' personal prognosis, I'd say it's guarded, at best.

Although the free-basing days are behind her, the book leaves Phillips smoking marijuana, drinking and devouring magic mushrooms. Near the end, I begin to hope this brilliant woman will finally arrive at some level of self-understanding. But unfortunately, this is not the movies, and Phillips does not ride off into the sunset with her true self, or anyone else for that matter.

Phillips asks every question, but in the answer department, she consistently comes up zip. Aspiring to human being, she seems unable to transcend the level of human doing.

But if it's true what they say, and life is really about process, not product, Phillips



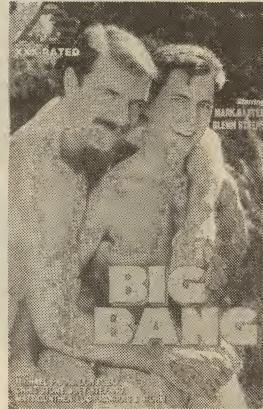
Julia Phillips skewers Hollywood in new book.

(Photo: Bonnie Schiffman)

may be one of the world's great successes. Knee-deep in her own fecal matter, she wallows with exquisite style and wit. And by owning up to the stench, she acquires the authority to take deadly accurate aim at all those Hollywood types who still think theirs doesn't stink. ▼

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Actors

(Continued from previous page)



Ross Hanna

well. This willingness to play with the idea of performance, to challenge the invisible fourth wall, is a hallmark of good solo work, and Hanna moves in and out of these interactions with precision and grace.

That he is wonderfully comic, and at times painfully sorrowful, enriches the theatrical experience, and provides thoughtful and compelling entertainment.

When I was a theatre undergraduate (just after the Civil War), I was taught that theatre required bare boards, two actors, and a passion. Both Lawrence Hyman and Ross Hanna prove that one

actor with a passion can make great theatre. ▼

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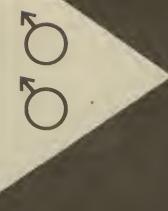
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DANCE

Assessing the SF Visit of American Ballet Theatre

Dancing Under Glass

by Eric Hellman

Rudolph Nureyev, probably our century's greatest male dancer and, in the past 15 years, an equally remarkable self-parodist, was recently quoted comparing American classical dance to the culinary experience of a Big Mac. He didn't exactly specify the purveyor by brand name, but the cheeseburger metaphor was the summary thrust of his comments. Nureyev was also quoted explaining how a chewing-gum culture and its American-made ballerinas lack sufficient "style" to ascend to the rarified heights of true ballerinadom. All in all, he found American ballet to be lacking in both nutrition and artistic substance.

Despite the obvious hyperbole of this aging artist's remarks, there is a certain truth to what Rudi had to say. And nowhere was this more evident than during the recent, two-week visit by American Ballet Theatre to San Francisco.

These are tough times for ballet, in particular, and artistic dance, in general — audiences are no longer surging; funding is tight; expenses are staggering; the great choreographers are dead (the final giant, Martha Graham, died at age 96 last week); and no matter how hard one looks, the new "stars" seem smaller than life and not terribly engaging to watch.

Proof in performance: the only radically glamorous (and artistically transcendent) evening during ABT's entire run was last Friday's *La Bayadere* (April 5), in which human contortionist Sylvie Guillem delivered an astonishingly impassioned, technically nuanced performance, reminding everyone what dancing is really all about. Guillem is a former Paris Opera Ballet *etóile* (the troupe's highest rank), who is currently forging an international career, dancing most recently with both London's Royal Ballet and ABT. Guillem is, presumably, the type of ballerina who Mr. Nureyev was not referring to in his published remarks. Guillem uses technique as a means of artistic expression, and this is why she transcends the freakish nature of her extraordinary extension (one amusing friend claims she can actually wrap her ankle around her ear). But instead of focusing on her amazing plasticity, or the speed and clarity of her dancing, I kept looking, marveling really, at the perfect expressiveness of her fingers and hands. They told the whole story — an intense journey of the inner self — and there wasn't a single haughty, ugly gesture, even when Guillem's partner, ABT's predictably secure Kevin McKenzie, nearly dropped her during the second act. McKenzie, completely unnerved by his faux pas, stumbled through the rest of his solo variations, adding to Jaffe as the "Joan Collins of ballet" and, although there is a physical resemblance, that



Roger Van Fleteren, seen here with Kathleen Morris in *Sinfonietta*, is one of several members of the corps whose work stood out during ABT's recent visit.

(Photo: Richard N. Greenhouse)



Sylvie Guillem

Cheeseburger Princess

By contrast, perhaps the best example of the chewing-gum syndrome in American dance is Susan Jaffe's odd ascendance to the post of leading house-ballerina at Ballet Theatre (the abbreviated version of the company's name is now preferred by directors Jane Hermann and Oliver Smith in an attempt, one guesses, to evoke the sense of hammy grandeur from the pre-Baryshnikov days).

Jaffe was one of Baryshnikov's pet projects (she was promoted to principal dancer in 1983 amid much critical sniping). Jaffe continues to lead the company's women (she danced the opening night cast of ABT's newly refurbished *Coppelia*, partnered by the short, squat, yet remarkably energetic Julio Bocca), but her position seems to be one more by default than artistic authority. Interestingly, ABT's new management has readily pushed Jaffe aside when visiting stars like Carla Fracci or Guillem or the mostly retired Cynthia Gregory are available for duty. My naughty friend always refers to Jaffe as the "Joan Collins of ballet" and, although there is a physical resemblance, that

really isn't a very nice thing to say. In fact, Jaffe has a brilliant technique — full of whipping turns and daggerlike toework. But she's a cheeseburger princess. And it's not an excess of weight that I'm referring to: she's appropriately ballerina-thin. But there's also a thinness to her inner radiance; she projects a cold, calculating personality that results in crisp finishes preceded by frequently wobbly turns. It's as though she commands her technique through an act of will, rather than as the result of interior development; she rarely evinces the existence of a soul.

Jaffe did dance wonderfully — all precision and ice — in the adagio section from Kenneth MacMillan's *Concerto* at the Tuesday, April 2 AIDS benefit. Partnered by a fully confident and secure Kevin McKenzie, Jaffe's crystalline technique produced cerebral poetry in response to composer Dimitri Shostakovich's haunting, lonely second movement. But it was the kids who truly stole the show (and that, repeatedly, was the most exciting news of ABT's entire visit). It was the soloists and, especially, the corps boys and girls who frequently revealed the company's most vibrant, inspired dancing. *Concerto*'s casting was, in many ways, a model demonstration of what the future ABT might be: Christina Fagundes, Julie Kent, Amy Rose, Roger Van Fleteren, Jeremy Collins and John Summers were simply jubilant in the choreographer's witty essay in complex spatial interpenetrations.

Van Fleteren, in particular, gets my vote as the young ABT man most likely to succeed. He's tall, handsome, executes an especially beautiful classical line, and finishes everything with an extra flourish of enthusiasm. Van Fleteren and Amy Rose, dancing in the Nocturne from Tuesday's benefit performance of *Fall River Legend*, were the ballet's only relief

from choreographer Agnes de Mille's dated, overextended melodrama. Even Guillem, debuting in the role of The Accused, seemed slightly unsure of what she was doing in this chopper chick ballet. Veteran ABT principal Victor Barbee (now making the transition to character roles) gave a superlative performance as Her Pastor, adding a smoldering sexual energy to the role.

Seal of Blandness

Unfortunately, sex and kinkiness and, more generally, the darker side of human personality were exactly what ABT's new (but old) production of *Coppelia* managed to eliminate. One might say this *Coppelia* gets the Official Jesse Helms Seal of Blandness. The production is new because director Hermann commissioned a new set (*Coppelia* goes to Disneyland in a bright-hued version of Middle European kitsch) by Tony Straiges and nifty Peter Pan-visits-Tyrol costumes by Broadway designer Patricia Zippord. But the choreography is still Enrique Martinez's work from the company's 1968 production, and, irony of ironies, despite the push for "family entertainment," *Coppelia* has always been (and remains) a remarkably sunny, happy ballet (it's a comedy when everything else has been said and done). It's just that the virtue of happiness — it's appeal, really — depends on our understanding the darkness which the creatively healthy must reject.

In a nutshell, this *Coppelia* turns Dr. Coppelin (the doll-maker, a magician, a strange and sinister figure if the original story by E.T.A. Hoffmann — or the music, by Leo Delibes — is to be believed) into a comic buffoon. Coppelin is the kind of guy who gets off on inanimate stuffed dolls while drugging young boys in an attempt to steal their souls. Coppelin's tragedy is not his yearning for love, but his in-

(Continued on page 48)

Up Front & Honest

(Continued from page 29)

By the end of April 1991, Goode's company will have completed a rigorous schedule that includes engagements in Chicago, Columbus, Santa Fe, San Luis Obispo, San Diego, San Francisco and Houston. The company's annual budget is funded by equal amounts of grant money and income from performances. But Goode insists that the precise amount of his company's six-figure budget not be quoted.

"I go into meetings with Bay Area choreographers and conversations stop when I enter the room. There's a hush that seems to fall over the place, a mixture of jealousy, admiration and resentment. These are difficult economic times and most local companies are struggling. It makes

"There's a fundamental dishonesty in the dance world about homosexuality ... the bulk of all famous choreographers are gay — but they're not up front about it."

—Joe Goode

me very uncomfortable, but my company's income lets me actually pay my dancers instead of forcing me to rely solely on their good will and dedication to art."

Grant monies come to Goode from the San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund, the National Endowment for the Arts and other private organizations. But the N.E.A., recently the subject of much controversy, has been exceptionally helpful to Goode's artistic development.

"Reagan made it impossible for corporations to receive the tax break they could once claim for commissioning new works of art. That eliminated many potential sources of income. But the N.E.A. was actually a very forward-thinking organization. They took me on in 1984 when I was making my bloodiest, most confessional work by giving me grants as an individual choreographer. Unfortunately, times have changed and a new artist would probably not be given grants today for the kind of work I was doing in 1984."

Gift From San Francisco

According to Goode, the decade of work that preceded his current success was a gift from San Francisco. A fugitive from Manhattan, Goode found himself in a directionless continental drift from 1977 to 1980. They were what he refers to as his "Lost

Years." After working as a dancer and studying with choreographers like Twyla Tharp and Merce Cunningham, Goode was devastated by the Manhattan experience.

"I missed the party years. I was practically celibate all that time, dealing with my artistic angst and deeply fucked up by my five years in New York. It was paralytic. After graduating from college in Virginia, I went to New York to work as an actor. But no one thought I could act, or write, and I turned to dance because it was the one thing I could get a job doing. I had studied dance since I was a child. Since I was tall, strong, and could lift a female dancer over my head, they hired me.

"But my time in New York was totally schizophrenic. I would do a play until late, smoke cigarettes and stay up all night, then go take a dance class in the morning and be a little automaton. I hated my life and the dance scene in New York, which is basically frou-frou athletics in tights.

"New York is a horrible place to live, and I'm amazed people still want to do it. I'm a sponge and I learned I couldn't live that way in New York. I had to develop a tunnel vision for self-defense. After a while I realized I was suppressing my true nature. I wasn't getting to absorb and feel, and experience the world the way I needed to."

According to Goode, it was San Francisco, with its long-standing reputation for tolerance, that liberated him. He found it possible to create works that combined his dancing, writing and choreographic skills and simultaneously express his sexuality in an open fashion.

Fundamental Dishonesty

"There's a fundamental dishonesty in the dance world about homosexuality. Dance is a gay-dominated field and the bulk of all famous choreographers are gay — but they're not up front about it. Honesty is important in my work, and I felt the need to be honest about my sexuality as well, but not in a show-your-nasties-and-titillate-a-ghetto-audience way. That's never been of interest to me. But in San Francisco I found I could express myself the way I needed to and the audiences said, 'Yes.'

Goode's current work has led him toward metaphysical themes. Yet while drawn to the spiritual, Goode remains doubtful, and this sort of fence-sitting gives rise to the juxtaposition of other-worldly themes with a humorous skepticism. Out of body experiences can segue into dances with the dead, all amid the speculation that the seemingly separate states of life and death may not be separate at all.

What the audience, and critics, may think of all this is of no concern to Goode. But the audience does feel some-



Joe Goode's *Remembering the Pool at the Best Western* is loosely based on an experience he had floating in a motel pool.

(Photo: Marty Sohl)

thing at a Joe Goode performance. In fact, if limited to a one-adjective description of Goode's work, you would be hard pressed to come up with a word more appropriate than "evocative." Goode explains that this is clearly not a coincidental effect.

"When the motive of a work is to please or have success, and not to have a personal resonant experience, the work is dishonest. It goes back to the history of Western dance which began as a *divertissement* for kings and queens, as opposed to Eastern

or African dance which grew more organically from the community and came from personal inspiration and emotion. Our white European tradition is filtered down from the kings and queens and it's difficult for us to find our way back to speaking honestly, through dance, about what is happening in our lives.

"There's a complicated relationship between an audience and a performer. I must feel something myself. This feeling is what's lacking in our modern society. I make myself deal with material

that's risky for me because I have to provoke a feeling in my own experience when I'm on stage.

"My work has to resonate for me. If I can provide myself with a feeling catharsis every time I go on stage, I know the audience will get it."

Editor's note: The Joe Goode Performance Group presents Remembering the Pool at the Best Western April 11-14 and 18-21 at Theater Artaud. Tickets are \$12-\$15, reserved seating. Phone 621-7797 for information. ▼

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Gay History Class

The Gay and Lesbian Studies Department of City College of San Francisco will offer a short-term history course, "U.S. Gay and Lesbian Reform Movements, 1949-Present." The class will meet Tuesday evenings 6:30-

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'War' Trauma

The Children's Crusade
Rebecca Brown; Seal Press, \$8.95

by Deborah Peifer

The Children's Crusade is a futuristic novel of Armageddon and its aftermath.

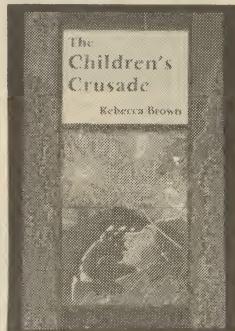
Or, *The Children's Crusade* is a novel about a bitter divorce and a child custody battle that uses the metaphor of war and occupation to express the pain of the children involved.

The novel opens with brief, telling, and ultimately painful scenes from the childhood of the hero/narrator, she who will eventually lead the children's crusade.

After several vignettes, centered on a young child's first awareness of death, the focus shifts to a playground where, in the midst of explosions and screaming, the narrator loses her brother. For the rest of the novel, the hero is always both child and double agent serving the opposing forces of her mother and father.

The novel is occasionally wonderfully funny, as when the hero describes her efforts to pass the strict screening in order to become a spy:

But neither of them was born yesterday. They each know everybody has her breaking point, regardless of her price. So they each put me through a series of tests to find out mine. They try to see how much I can endure before I talk. They throw me into solitary, expose me to



the elements, tie me in front of a bare bright bulb for hours, restrict my TV watching, deprive me of dessert, ground me from using the phone.

Disturbing Moments

But if much of the novel is wryly comic, with its wonderful juxtaposition of schoolgirl and spy, there are also darkly disturbing moments as well, as the spy is threatened with rape by her father, and is later gang raped by a pack of children.

I don't know if they left me for dead but they left me. ... My body feels like one big bruise. ... My shirt is ripped and my trousers and panties are down around my ankles. I'm glad I can't remember

what they did to me.

The violence of the scene is painful, and if the narrator claims loss of memory, the reader is too easily able to supply details.

The novel is frightening, and more than a little unnerving, with its shifts of mood and focus.

I am finally forced to admit that, although the use of war as a metaphor for the trauma of divorce is powerful, and the use of the grandparents as border guards is a wonderful comment on their role in this kind of proceeding, the war metaphor may actually be more overkill than not.

I can't help but feel that, once she committed to the war metaphor, Brown was in some way committed to a conceit that was too large for her subject. In order to stay with the metaphor, Brown has to use more and more horrible images, and those images are finally more than the subject of the metaphor can bear. The rape scenes, with overtones of child abuse and incest, are too horrible for the rest of the novel, and finally, undercut the pain of the separation trauma by overdoing.

The Children's Crusade contains powerful writing, and is in many ways a stunning novel. But I was finally left unsatisfied. The metaphor overtook the subject and left it bobbing in a sea of overworked imagery.

In some way, the humor may have served to undercut, rather than support, the seeming intent of the text, since the humor did not comment

Benefit

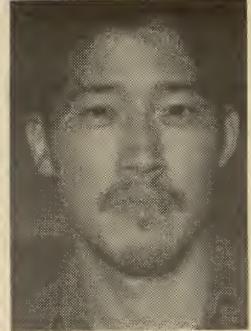
(Continued from page 31)

mands."

Demands Clarified

The demands, as they stood on April 6, and in solidarity with the Asian Lesbians of the East Coast (AOEC) and Gay Asian/Pacific Islander Men of New York (GAPIMNY) demand that Lambda withdraw the *Miss Saigon* benefit production, were that Lambda apply affirmative action standards to the agency's recruitment of both board members and staff, conduct outreach to the Asian and Pacific Islander communities, and hold multicultural sensitivity training at all levels of its operations. On the condition that the benefit was to continue, there was the additional demand for a public apology to the organizations involved in the protest as well as to Asian/Pacific lesbians, gays and bisexuals in general. To fulfill this last demand, Lambda was to have announced its apology before the opening curtain of *Miss Saigon* as well as in a direct mailing to those Lambda invited to attend the event.

While at this writing it is uncertain as to whether or not Lambda complied with the public apology or has plans to respond to any of the other demands, it bears noting that



GAPIMNY member Paul Shima-zaki
(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

Lambda New York Legal Director Paula Ettelbrick was in attendance at the showing of *Slaying the Dragon* and identified herself to the audience and organizers at the end of the panel discussion, despite original plans to the opposite. She spoke, in an unofficial capacity, to the dissent inside of Lambda as to the decision to continue in the face of protest and said she had come that evening as a way of showing her support for the Asian/Pacific gay, lesbian and bisexual communities. Ettelbrick concluded, "There are those (of Lambda) who are working for change. ... We are committed to moving forward and committed to moving forward with all of you." ▼

on the overblown responses of the adolescent, but merely served to remind us of her status as adolescent in the metaphor.

I guess what I am trying to say is that the novel tells a powerful tale, but solely from

the child's point of view. It is finally an adult sensibility that I missed in this novel. The writing is intricate and rich, and the war metaphor is sustained throughout, but finally, I was unmoved by this child's trauma. ▼

Chorus

(Continued from page 30)

distinguished guest soprano Deborah Voigt was a rare treat for the audience. In July 1990, she made international headlines as the winner of the Gold Medal in the Ninth Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, the first American singer in a quarter century to be awarded this coveted prize.

Ms. Voigt made her San Francisco Opera debut in 1986, and has appeared on stage in this city in *The Magic Flute*, *Nabucco* and last October, as Amelia in *Un Ballo in Maschera*. She is scheduled to repeat that role in the Metropolitan Opera's 1991 Park Series.

With a commanding stage presence and the seemingly effortless beauty of her voice, she thrilled audiences with selections from Tchaikovsky's *Opus 47* and Liza's aria from Scene 6 of *Pikovaya Dama*. The purity of her vocal expression was enhanced by principal accompanist Richard Rogers.

The chorus joined Ms. Voigt for "La Vergine Degli Angeli" from *La Forza Del Destino*, which brought the audience to their feet in appreciation for this highlight of harmony in the program.

A Bit of Fun

Fans of the Gay Men's Chorus can always depend on a bit of fun to liven up any serious concert, and this weekend's performances were no exception. Artistic Director Stan Hill provided the audience with some laughter when

he introduced the young men of the Arlekin Moscow String Quartet.

"You're not going to believe this," Hill quipped, "but yes, you will — it's San Francisco — we found these guys playing in a BART station!" Although they can, indeed, be heard playing underground, their rendition of Alexander Borodin's "Nocturne From Quartet No. 2" was played with vigor and style.

The chorus performed three traditional Russian folk songs, "Kalinka," "Gregor" and "Troika," which brought to life scenes from all those wonderful Russian novels — images of bearded passengers riding through snowy nights with horse bells ringing to ward off the wolves.

Near the end of the concert, Stan Hill took to the stage again to introduce the chorus with a statement that expressed how much work had gone into this special concert and set the stage for the much anticipated finale. He faced the audience and said, "Now — God willing — the Coronation Scene from *Boris Godunov*."

What followed was an impressive chorus of voices, featuring tenor Bruce Fetherolf and bass John Musselman accompanied by a complex combination of percussion, piano, timpani, bells and organ.

Perestroika was an exciting adventurous performance by the Gay Men's Chorus. They were proud to present an expression "of our desire to live in a peaceful world that encourages respect for the diversity of cultures and lifestyles everywhere." ▼

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The Human Race: More Than a Few Laps

by Mark Freeman

Race is likely to be at the center of the gay and lesbian communities' development during the '90s. Voting patterns for a decade in which all the "minorities" add up to a majority will say a lot about the coalitions we'll need. In our communities the voices of people of color have not been silent of late; I'll mention a few recent opportunities for us to have heard them:

★ Sara Levi Calderon, a Jewish woman from Mexico who has that country's first

I've no argument that white racism abounds, but isn't it strange that white folks, again, are defining both sides? And are objectifying the "other" in purely racial terms?

lesbian novel on its best-seller lists, and Francisco X. Alarcon, a San Francisco-based poet and mentor to the Spanish-speaking gay community, were among those featured at "Noche de Ambiente," a bilingual reading at the Victoria Theatre during the recent OUT!Write conference.

★ The current issue of *OUT/LOOK*, our own glossy national quarterly that bends over backwards for gender and race parity (this is sometimes a difficult position for fun), features two fine first-person pieces. One's a must-read essay by Marlon Riggs (*Tongues Untied*) on how it was to be an isolated "Black Gay Signifyin' Butch-Queen" undergrad at Harvard. The other, a guest editorial by

Tomas Almaguer, is a bitchy monologue against tokenism and having others speak for you, while still getting "satisfaction out of being cast as a gadfly in a white queer world."

★ *Asians & Gay Porn* is available from Studio Shanghai West (2350-A Market Street, San Francisco). It's a pamphlet of round-table talk continuing the dialogue on erotic images of gay Asian men (or Asian gay men) begun last year by Richard Fung.

★ Theatre Rhino hosted *Inner Spirit/Outer Visions: A Celebration of the Creativity of Women of Color* in which the storytelling of Belinda Sullivan, the dancing of Debra Floyd and the remarkable voice and finger piano of Karolyn van Putten were standouts.

★ And at Josie's Cabaret and New Langton Arts, Pomo Afro Homo's production of *Fierce Love* (from the line, "Our love has got to be as strong as our ancestors' — and twice as fierce") had their mixed audience screaming in its genes.

Suffice to say that there are various voices, eloquent ones, crying out about racism.

Indiscreet Instigator

Yet it was *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* author Edward Albee, in an unusually indiscreet mood at the OUT!Write conference, who instigated a long overdue dialogue about race for our entire community by claiming minority status for himself as a white middle-class man.

This is a subject that makes everybody tense and for good reason. I believe that racism is America's No. 1 problem, that more than anything else racial hatred has historically kept all of us from uniting to get anything done. I also believe that racism is not limited to the "white" (as those of European descent are usually referred to) "race" (by which we really mean ethnicity), since most would agree that we all belong to the human race), though "white racism" is far and

away the main problem in the United States, Canada and Latin America.

But it is already not so simple; we run into complexities when we look at the real world. In Latin American countries, white racism is practiced by more light-skinned Hispanic descendants against darker, more Indian ones. Yet if these same light Latinas come north, they find themselves discriminated against, treated as non-whites. In Canada, where relations with the Native Canadians, never good, have taken center stage in struggles against racial abuse, discrimination against Canada's French-speaking Catholic minority has not vanished, though for purposes of racial identification, they can be considered nearly as "white" as Anglo Protestants.

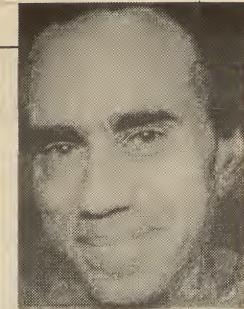
In our own country, racial issues, which were largely out of the media eye for a decade (it being so much easier to criticize racism in South Africa), have roared into consciousness again, thanks to the surging popularity of rap/dub/funk and hip-house music as the choice of the new generation of African American and Asian and Latin and Caucasian — and gay — kids. I say, "Good. It's about time."

As a child (actually a teen) of the '60s, race was always a key issue. In high school we got visited by an ex-senior telling us about the civil rights movement; she'd just returned from the Freedom Rides. And at age 15 my very first political group was SNCC (Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee), just before they decided to make their meetings closed to whites.

My first girlfriend's mother was an "Arkie," her father black; he forbade her to go out with this "gray boy" — but forbidden meant desirable, even back then. My gay identity grew up on multicultural images from James Baldwin, Genet and Rechy; the first boy I ever fell in love with was Eurasian — and sadly straight.



James Baldwin, left, and Pomo Afro Homos member Brian Freeman.



an oppressed minority keeps them firmly in the role of victims — right where white liberals traditionally prefer to have them.

As a Jewish gay male, I've always found myself on both sides of issues. People, including my own, tend to see Jews these days as whites. But Hitler didn't; he made it clear that we had to be eliminated for "orientalizing" Germany's pure white Aryan blood (even though "Aryans" had originally emigrated from East India). "If you ever forgot that you are Jewish," my elders remind me, "there will always be some Gentiles to remind you." So, most of the articles about culture I've been writing for a dozen years now have had, for my sake, to do with race. How well we all deal with racial differences, then, is crucial to my survival as a Jew. As, I'd suggest, it is for all of us fags and dykes.

Dealing With Difference

White Oppressors

Their approach is that all racism is caused by white folks, that all white people benefit from "white skin privilege" and are oppressors

I am not for a Queer Nation. I love the demos and focus groups, outrageous slogans and stickers — the time for queer has come — but not as a "final solution."

from "the oppressor nation." The corollary is, simply enough, that all black people (and other people of color) are oppressed members of "oppressed nations." It all seems so clear.

But must people of color always be the oppressed ones? Aren't the Japanese, for instance, capable of racism against Koreans or African Americans? And vice versa? Prairie Fire says such quibbles avoid the point.

I've no argument that white racism abounds, but isn't it strange that white folks, again, are defining both sides? And are objectifying the "other" in purely racial terms?

Insisting that all non-people of color identify themselves as whites (as opposed to their actual ethnic derivation, such as Sicilian or Welsh or Argentinian Arab or Lebanese Christian or Czech gypsy) denies all class realities and encourages racism. Lumping all folks of color as

Coming together around a common identity, when it's done by queers or women or ethnic groups or the differently abled, is a necessary step. None of us can overcome oppression without a new, self-made identity. But if that becomes our be-all and end-all, we let ourselves in for a different kind of trouble.

Even the nationalism of a people in need of a country can lead to very conservative results (witness the current Israeli government). Women's "nationalism" was called separatism, which also outlined its time of usefulness and led to a few very strange anomalies, like some feminists calling for the abortion (or even killing) of male babies. And wasn't it nationalism (socialist, at that), carried to its logical extreme, that became Nazism?

That's why, unpleasant as it is to admit it, I must agree in part with Edward Albee. I am not for a Queer Nation. I love the demos and focus groups, outrageous slogans and stickers — the time for queer has come — but not as a "final solution." We can deal with our differences, racial, sexual or gender, without the dubious help of tired ideologies that got worn out in the '70s.

Instead, we can hear what each other has to say directly, even when it isn't always comfortable. The tried-and-true way this happens in every group is through its culture.

In *Fierce Love*, actors/writers Eric Gupton, Brian Freeman and Bernard Branner de-

(Continued on page 59)

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The Galleon is out front in the Women's Division with a 2-0 record.

(Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

Good Play, Good Sports

by Nancy Boutillier

It's hard to tell the game winners from the losers in the GSL when everyone seems to be having so much fun. Where but the GSL would a second baseman offer a high-five to an opposing runner who had just stretched a single into a double?

Well, baserunner Tommy Steinhauer was all smiles when Rainbow Roos Bob Clary greeted him at second with a congratulatory five. The Roos won the game 11-2 paced by the hustle and hitting of Tim McQuaid. The Roos upped their record to 2-0, while Steinhauer and his Smiles fell 0-3.

Winning may not be everything in the GSL, but some teams do it more often than others.

For now, the Eagle is soaring on a 3-0 record at the top of Division A. Also 3-0, the Corral is kicking up dust while rounding the bases at the top of the B Division.

The Eagle, a team which won only one game last season, has already proven itself three times better than last year's squad.

Andre Lalias and John Roller each homered in the eighth inning to break a 7-7 tie, giving the Eagle a 14-7 victory over Rolo on opening day. Lalias might have had a four-bagger earlier in the game had it not been for the catch of the day in left field by Rolo's Mark Schultz.

Next it was the Pilsner Penguins who couldn't quite fly with the Eagle, as their matchup ended 13-9. Then, when the dust settled a week later, the Eagle had collected its third win, 23-7 over Rawhide II.

The Corral, paced by Pete Czech's grand slam, toured the bases 29 times on Easter Sunday to sweep Smiley 21-4, and Motherlode 8-4. The Pendulum Bucs took the Corral to an extra inning this past Sunday. Pete Czech came through at the plate again, driving in Mike Sieczkarek with the game-winning run, securing an 11-10 victory in the top of the eighth.

Despite an opening day loss, Motherlode regrouped and gave up only five runs to the Pilsner Pistons a week later. Graig Cote was a perfect 5-for-5 at bat for Motherlode, as he and teammates amassed 29 runs.

Galleon Out Front

In the Women's Division, the Galleon is out in front with a 2-0 record. The Galleon defense held Amelia's to four runs on opening day, winning 15-4. A week later, Mint/Sweet Inspiration's eight runs were not enough to beat the Galleon's 24 trips home. Shortstop Terry Gelhart scored 4 runs and had 5 RBIs.

Also in the Women's Division, Leticia's scored 33 runs to beat the Cinch 33-9. Box It scored a KO against Mint/Sweet Inspiration with a 22-0 rout. The Box It bats rattled all morning as Dawn Furseth collected four hits on five trips to the plate. Box It's defense made sure no one got past first base. But it was their first game date.

The Mint prevented Silverman Chiropractic from scoring in a 21-0 shutout. The only other shutout of the season was the 15-0 Easter Egg made possible by the stellar defense of Uncle Bert's Brats. The Brats scored five runs in the first inning and proved too much for Rawhide II. Brat Tim Meese tagged a three-run homer in the fifth to put the game out of reach. A week later the Brats bested the Huffy Puffins, 21-7. Once again the Brats defense remained stingy while coach Rita offered praise for his team's strength, "cocktails."

On Easter Sunday Rick Cunningham didn't put all his eggs in one basket for Uncle Bert's Bombers. He scattered his four hits across Kimball Field, including a blast to left-center that rolled to the opposite infield. Cunningham was 4-for-4 as the Bombers beat the Pilsner Penguins, 12-2.

While the Bombers are not a team to be called sleeper in this league, Cunningham almost slept through this week's game compliments of Daylight Savings Time. His teammates were already on the field when Cunningham arrived, and they needed a boost of some kind. The Pendulum Pirates had taken a 4-3 lead in the first inning, and it looked like a possible mutiny by the Pirates. Not particularly accustomed to trailing, the Bombers rallied behind the power hitting of Tony Easley and Larry Huber to remain undefeated.

When Rossi Meats/LYRIC walked home with a 19-5 win over the Pilsner Pistons last week, coach December

Wright credited the young women on the team with the victory.

"I'm giving this one all to the girls," he said after the game.

This week the coach's praise went to "Jeremy's pitching," as RM/LYRIC held Group Therapy to half a dozen runs in their 10-6 victory.

Last week's three-run homer by Richard Mull in the bottom of the sixth sparked the Mint's 12-11 comeback victory over the Elephant Walk. This week Wendy Burke's clutch hitting helped Cassidy's Cabaret send the Elephant Walking, 14-12. Burke earned the game ball, autographed by her teammates, for her efforts.

Horizontal DP

Speaking of efforts, Sweet Inspiration's Greg Newman turned a diving catch in center field into a double play with a throw made while still horizontal. Newman's teammate Ted Schirzinger knocked a Homer past the third baseline of the opposite field, but "how many" counts for more than "how far," and in the end, Rolo had more. Sparking the 9-4 triumph was Gary Edde with a 3-for-3 showing at bat for Rolo. John Parsons had the most acrobatic catch of the day as he dove and Rolo-ed across left field with a spectacular grab.

* * *

Below is the schedule for the GSL's April 14 games.

Kimball Field No. 1 (Steiner Street at Ellis): Sweet Inspiration v. Uncle Bert's Brats, 9 a.m.; Pendulum Pirates v. SF-Eagle, 10:20 a.m.; Huffy Puffins v. Motherlode 11:40 a.m.; Rolo v. Pendulum Pirates, 1 p.m.; Leticia's v. A Different Light, 2:20 p.m.; Rolo v. Pilsner Pistons, 3:40 p.m.

Kimball Field No. 2: Smiley v. Pendulum Bucs, 9 a.m.; Silverman Chiropractic v. Elephant Walk, 10:20 a.m.; Pendulum Bucs v. Rawhide II, 11:40 a.m.; A Different Light v. Amelia's, 1 p.m.; Mint v. Pilsner Pistons, 2:20 p.m.; Amelia's v. Mint/Sweet Inspiration, 3:40 p.m.

Potrero Field (17th Street at Arkansas): Cassidy's Cabaret v. Group Therapy, 1 p.m.; Rossi Meats/LYRIC v. Cassidy's Cabaret, 2:20 p.m.; Rainbow Roos v. Group Therapy, 3:40 p.m. ▼

BASKETBALL



Pacers triumphed at gay basketball tourney. (Photo: Rick Gerhardt)

Pacers Impress in Championship Game

by Joe Nelson

It was standing room only at the finals of the Pendulum Basketball Classic this last Sunday as the two only undefeated teams met in a close game with the Pacers beating Los Angeles 66 to 47. This game climaxed a weekend rife with activities for the 90 visiting athletes, many of them visiting San Francisco for their very first time.

With games played at two gyms all day Saturday and Sunday and an overall attendance of at least 500 people, fans were dazzled with the quality of men's basketball that very likely exceeded the talent level at Gay Games III last year. Whereas the same Pacers squad dominated the competition in Vancouver, four of the teams last weekend stayed close in their games against the Gay Games III gold medalists. As was true in softball, the competitive yardstick continues to become tougher and tougher. No longer can poorer quality street players challenge other gay athletes since many gay basketballers have the significant collegiate experience necessary for championship playing and many are much taller.

The championship game at the Castro gym featured the best two gay teams while raising money for the American Foundation for AIDS Research. In addition, a National Collegiate Athletic Association referee, Tony Spiteri, volunteered his services on behalf of AmFAR. NCAA referees with his skills typically command up to \$300 per game for their services.

Trophies were awarded to the first- and second-place teams with, for the first time, trophies awarded for other events. John Mercier of the Los Angeles Lambda team won the slam-dunk competition. Brian Leigh of the Long Beach Rebels won the long-range shoot-out trophy. Dwight Dunn of the San Diego Shooterz won the sportsmanship award for having the best demeanor on

the court.

The Cinderella team was the unproven Chicago squad, which ended with a 2-2 record, though they had a good chance to win all of their games. They didn't make it to Vancouver, so the other teams did not expect them to be so prepared for the competition level of the tournament.

New York brought a powerful club, led by Tony Kirkland. Because of a tough schedule, they only won one of their four games, though most of those games were very close.

San Diego's youngster, Dwight Dunn, scored 46 points in one game and he only played two-thirds of that encounter. The San Diego Shooterz were 2-0 after Saturday, but two overtime losses on Sunday eliminated them from the championship game.

The Long Beach Rebels lost to the Pacers in double overtime, which stopped them from progressing to the big game. They led the Pacers the entire game, but they missed a couple of key shots in the closing moments. Their young, tall team remains one of the best gay teams ever.

The 2nd place Los Angeles Lambda team featured high-leaping center Tim Dean, who just never seemed to have as great a game as he could have had. Their re-building team has a dominant front line, good guards and a deep bench, which is surely why they won all their games leading to the final.

The champion Pacers were back in form because Steve Moore, John Wood and Michael Mazgai rejoined the team after a lengthy absence due to injuries. In addition, the Pacers added a new player, Roy Main, who filled a backdrop role quite nicely.

Both San Francisco and Los Angeles "B" teams ended up with a single win; however, the SF Streakers nearly upset the 2nd place Los Angeles team and the Long Beach team in their two matchups. Only San Francisco's "C" Squad did not manage to win a game. ▼

BOWLING

Community League Phoenix

by Jerry R. De Young

The fiery 1990/91 Winter Season will soon end for the six Community Bowling Leagues at Japantown Bowl, and the 1991 Summer Season is looking to be an equally stimulating season.

There is a gay league bowling at Japantown on every day of the week except Saturday, with each league demonstrating a distinct personality. Thursday Community Bowling League, for instance, is made up of bartenders, swing-shift workers and household engineers. Any person considering becoming a league bowler will certainly find that at least one of the six Community Leagues will complement his/her competitive personality. If you would like more information regarding starting dates/times, fees, and team size, please phone

Dean Tyrrell or Chris Corey at 921-6200.

Of course, San Francisco is not the only city in which bowling is the second largest indoor sport. San Jose frequently presents lane extravaganzas that attract avid bowlers from the most distant corners of our state.

The tournament scheduled for May 4 is no exception. It will evolve from a singles tournament into a doubles tournament into a stepladder finale. For more info regarding this metamorphic triad, contact John Games at (408) 226-BOWL.

The Bowlers Emergency Aid Relief (BEAR) board of directors will convene an open meeting on Tuesday, April 30, between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m., in the upstairs meeting room at Japantown Bowl. The nine board members will be up for election.

All league bowlers are encouraged to attend and vote. Anyone interested in running for a seat on the BEAR board may want to first speak with Don George or Carol Hull, or some other standing board member. Dial 775-6246 for information.

Now, back to bowling. On the Wednesday CommBL, on the evening of April 3, Chris Ellingson (148) of the Rude Fruits established a significant milestone in his bowling career when he bowled his first-ever 200+ game, a fantastic 203, and came within eight pins of a magnificent 500 series. Chris is swiftly maturing into an established lane master.

Another impressive game was the soaring 185 bowled on April 2 by Dallas Adams (113) of the Tuesday CommBL Alley Cats. ▼

Japantown Leagues

TuesdayCommBL, April 2,
Week 26 (90% hdp)

	W	L
Giraffe	31	13
Whoops!	28½	15½
Kane O Hawaii	27½	16½
Alley Cats	27	17
Armed Bandits	26	18
Fab Five	25	19
Gilmores	24½	19½
Bench and Bar	24	20
Cinch Spurs	22	22
Bearly Bowlers	21½	22½
Ginger Ales	21	23
Wet Dreamers	20	24
Magic Markers	20	24
Wrecking Balls	20	24
Jungle Red	19	25
Tender Vittles	18	26
The Simpsons	17½	26½
Men at Prey	16	28
Sticky Fingers	15½	28½
Go On Girl	15	29

Bill Ward (177) 230; Tim Kneis (180) 213, 225, 211 (649); Randy Peterson (190) 221, 224, 223 (668); Allen Neitzke (184) 224; Paul Chudomelka (168) 222, 200 (618); Pete Czech (159) 223; Mike Newman (176) 214; Bob Bates (176) 206; Jason Dela Pena (150) 202; Richard Cooper (177) 201

WednesdayCommBL, April 3,
Week 29 (80% hdp)

	W	L
Rude Fruits	35½	16½
Oui Bowlers	33	19
One Set Missing	32½	19½
Alley Cats	31	21
Team No. 11	29½	18½
The Rubber Mades	26	26
Mets Vamps	26	26
Team No. 3	23	29
Pearls	18	30
Team No. 1	16	36
The Hudson Twins	15½	32½
Tilt A Whirls	14	34
Justin Martindale (163) 210; Chris Ellingson (148) 203; Tony Frank (162) 201		

FridayCommBL, March 29,
Week 10 (90%)

	W	L
Bernal Bandits	27	13
Bee Bee Kay	26½	13½
Power Strokers	25	15
The Burbs	25	15
Mars Needs Women	25	15
Alley Gaytors	22½	17½
Bulldogs	22	18
The Scuds	21	19
Gutter Girls	20½	19½
Strike Stars	20	20
Strykettes	20	20
Bella's Boys	19	21
Thunder Alley	17½	22½
New Kids	17½	22½
Three Bowl Dykes	17	23
The Blue Ballers	16½	23½
Strike Force	16½	23½
Bodacious Ta Ta's	16	24
Rolling Pins	15½	24½
Oh, Please!	10	30
Don Gambell (187) 212; David Arnold (205) 202, 205, (600); Marc Gotschall (167) 204; Duane Flohra (198) 202; Victor Montoya (164) 201; Vidette Galvin (143) 201		

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Women

(Continued from page 29)

And what did you find? How is it working?

Women gained more playing opportunity, but women's coaching suffered a great setback. Because women's sports were no longer volunteer, men started getting those positions. Because athletic departments merged, instead of having one female head and one male head, the female was subsumed under the man, and she became the assistant or was lost altogether. So now men run a huge percentage of women's sports programs, and they tend to hire their friends, who happen to be male. Or they don't hire women because they are afraid the women are gay.

was taller than me, he said, "Well, then, you're not quick enough."

It turned out I'd been seen at Gay Pride Day a few months before the season started by a guy from Channel 4 who had done a spot on me playing basketball. We made eye contact, and even though there were over 200,000 people there listening to the speaker, I saw my career flash before my eyes because I knew how sexist and homophobic the coaches were.

How did you know that about the coaches?

I had once said something about being called "women" instead of "girls," and the coach said, "This is not a women's lib thing!" He had also said something about the men who made our uniforms

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MARIAH BURTON NELSON

body know everybody was gay, or 99.9 percent of us — to have women really hug each other, not just a "pat-pat-pat" on the back, to have men hold hands. It was beautiful and it was inclusive. Everybody could play — gay or

course the thing to do is to tell it!

In your book you suggest that financial success is inversely proportional to being openly gay, saying that "recreational athletes are much more likely to be openly gay than Olympic or professional ones." For recreational athletes, doesn't it sometimes work the other way?

Sure, sometimes you are free to come out if you are rich enough. If someone has a boss who's going to fire them, they are less likely to come out, which is why P.E. teachers and coaches don't come out.

I certainly understand that, but I still think they need to come out anyway. I have compassion for those who don't, and I understand why they don't, but I think that all of us who can come out should.

That comment in the book related to professional sports. If money comes from sponsors, well, those athletes just aren't coming out.

I think they should. I think they should make money a lower priority and think more about politics.

A decade after you played professional basketball in the WBL which folded, we have the Liberty League. What do you think of this new professional women's league with its nine-foot baskets and tight-fitting lycra uniforms?

I think it's appalling. They're so confused. On the one hand they're trying to make us look like men, thinking it will sell if we can only slam dunk. On the other hand, they're playing up the sexualization of women. They don't know we can just be athletes. They have gender on their minds so much that they can't see an athlete when they look at a woman, they just see female, and that really throws them.

When it comes to women in team sports, I sometimes get the sense that it's uncomfortable for men to watch women.

To watch them bond! Meanwhile, male bonding is so obvious when you watch men's sports. I see women holding back from the touching and support. Watching some old women's tennis tapes from the old days, I saw women throwing their arms around each other, playing around, touching, kidding after a tennis match. These were professionals, and I thought, "Oh, they don't do that anymore." Steffi Graf doesn't touch Monica Seles, Chris and Martina, a little bit more.

What would you like to see

ing all the sports opportunities that they deserve — whether that's coed sports or sometimes sex-segregated sports. I do believe coed sports are very good for women and men in terms of developing mutual respect and power.

If the men are better, it's good for the women because it challenges their level of play. If the women are better, it's good for the men to see that.

But also, I think women need to have segregated places where they can be free from male leering or comments. Women need to carve their own spaces.

Can you elaborate a little more on the need for women's space?

Historically, it's always been important for segregated people to draw back from the mainstream and gather strength, strategy, information, support, to bond with each other before assimilating in whatever way. I use "assimilating" not in a negative context, but to mean joining the mainstream and changing the mainstream by adding our culture to it.

Men, even gay men, still oppress women on an individual and collective basis, and women need spaces where they feel free to dress and move and compete and act in an atmosphere where men are not offering their opinions, not competing with them, even in a joking way.

Women need to be able to have that experience of winning. It is important for women, the individual one who wins, and women in general, to see a woman crossing the finish line first — the real finish line, not of the women's race after 50 men have crossed.

And physical safety is a huge issue as I talk about in the chapter "Running Scared." A lesbian running along doesn't know when she sees a man whether he's gay or straight necessarily, whether he's going to abuse her or not. She does know when she sees a woman that chances are that she's safe. She's not going to get harassed or raped by this woman. There's a sense of freedom in being in a group of all women.

Do you think lesbians experience team sports differently than men or straight women do?

The feminist approach to sports tends to be different from the military model. If you accept the dominant philosophy, then you are less likely to question the military model of sports. I've been on those teams where feminists, many of whom are also lesbians, are hashing out issues of

"I think they should make money a lower priority and think more about politics."

— Mariah Burton Nelson on closeted gay sports celebrities

10 years down the line?

Equal funding for women's sports, enforcement of Title IX, equal numbers of men and women in the Olympics and in college sports. No homophobia, no sexism, and women not feeling a need to be apologetic, not needing to bend over backwards to prove that they are feminine after they get off the basketball court. To be able to act and dress however feels integrated to them.

I'd like to see women hav-

Homophobia in women's sports isn't particularly new is it? How has it shaped your own experience of athletics?

When I was in the Women's Pro Basketball League, playing for the San Francisco Pioneers, I was put on waivers along with Linda Stroick, now a local lawyer. Clearly, I wasn't one of the worst players on the team, and when I asked why I was put on waivers, he said I wasn't tall enough. When I pointed out that nobody on the team

being "faggots."

So I decided not to specifically come out, and yet going to Gay Pride Day was important to me. I did later learn from another player on the team that this Channel 4 guy had told the owner, who had told the coach. And I think they thought that Linda and I were lovers, although we weren't. We were close, so she got fired with me.

Then I went to the first Gay Olympics in '82. It felt so different to have every-

straight, good or bad athlete — what I call in my book the partnership model rather than the military model of athletics.

I tell personal anecdotes throughout the book, so when I came to that point in the book, and that anecdote came to mind, I thought, well, either I tell it as a natural part of the book or I deliberately don't tell it, because it might lower book sales, or something.

So then I thought, well, of

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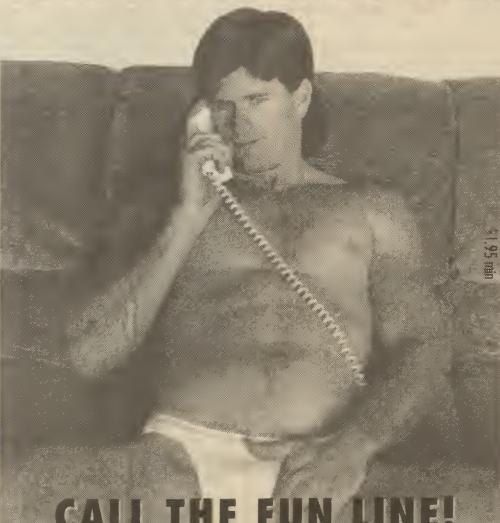
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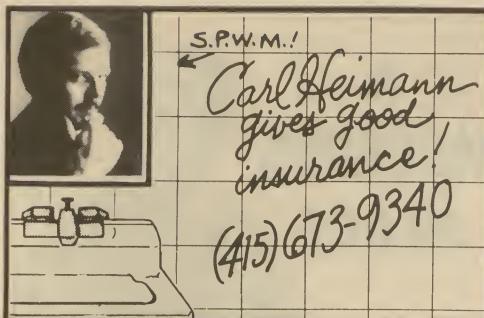
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FRIDAY 12

- 'Coca-Cola Moon': By Sandra Sharpe, an adult fable with music, dance and masks inspired by Kumari, young Nepalese girls who are chosen as living goddesses. Once they reach puberty and bleed in any way, they are dethroned, often becoming prostitutes. In *Coca-Cola Moon*, two dethroned Kumari choose an unconventional path. Apr. 11-14 and 18-21 at 8 p.m. \$10-12. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., SF. Call 863-9834.

- SF Women Writers Workshop: Spoken word performances by Debora Iyall, Daytona Beach, Priscilla, Berger, Debra Parkins, Sarah Rosenthal, Marion Rust & more. 10:30 p.m. \$4. The Marsh at Cafe Beano, 878 Valencia/20th St., SF. Stephen, 558-8112.

- 'Pink Triangles': Film addresses prejudice against gays/lesbians from a historical & contemporary perspective. Discussion follows. 12:10 p.m. San Jose State Student Union, Costanoa Rm. (408) 236-2002.

- Michael Stuart Leckie: Classical figurative sculpture seen thru April 14 at New World Gallery, 4124 18th St./Castro, SF. 864-3575.

- Gay/Lesbian Partner Dancing Classes: Learn to Waltz, Jitterbug, Tango & more in six-week course, Fridays thru May 7. Beginners 7:30 p.m. Intermediate level 8:30-10 p.m. \$60 adv., \$65. Gene, 621-8441.

HOT TIPS



Zoe Leonard, Rear View — Geoffrey Beene Fashion Show, 1990, photograph.
(Collection of the artist)



- Feminist Comic Betsy Salkind: Long popular in Boston's women's & gay communities, Salkind is known for her scathing political satire & hilarious characterizations of the famous & not-so-famous. Nothing escapes her analysis: abortion, health care, rape, the Geneva Conventions, furballs. Apr. 17 & 24 at 8 p.m. \$10. Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. 861-7933.

- 'AIDS Wasting Syndrome & Opportunistic Infections': Experts on the topic speak at community forum & discussion. Wheelchair access. 3-6 p.m. Free. MCC, 150 Eureka/18th St., SF.

- Soul Ventures Spring Social Mixer: Social & networking group for the HIV+/PWA community. Entertainment, food, door prizes. 7-10 p.m. \$12-17. Castro Hibachi Restaurant, 4063 18th St., SF. RSVP, 543-2520.

- Potluck Leather & Lace Lesbian Erotic Party: Wear your fantasy clothes (not S/M) of red, black, white or combination. Music, games, entertainment. 8 p.m.-12 a.m. Midgett, 648-3658.

SUNDAY 14

- Crysanthemum Ragtime Band in Concert: 10-piece ragtime ensemble plays the music of Kern, Joplin, Sousa & others. 4 p.m. \$5-6. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. 861-7933.



Fritz Lang's wonderfully entertaining *Metropolis* films that doesn't go down like castor oil — it's ripe at the Castro (April 16-17; \$8; 7 and 9:30 p.m.) and (*caveat emptor*), in the tinted print by Giorgio Moro with *Pool of Thanatos* (*caveat emptor* with whips having recently seen this I can safely say "dreadful"), any unnecessary encumbrances.

This silent classic solidified Lang's pessimistic optimism and at the same time presented his fatalistic improbable, deliriously extreme with the sets and sci-fi in its glorious heyday. — Warren Sonbert

SATURDAY 13

- UC-Berkeley Multicultural, Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay Alliance Benefit Dance: Dance the night away & maybe win a door prize; tix to see Dee-Lite in concert. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$6-8. The Mix, 2182 Shattuck, Berkeley. 644-3804.

- 'Terrace Dance II': Dance to celebrate the last day of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance of San Jose State University Pride Week. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. \$3. SJSU Women's Gym, San Carlos & 7th St., SF. (408) 236-2002.

- AIDS Emergency Fund Benefit Casino Night: Sponsored by the St. Francis Club. 7-11 p.m. \$35 adv., \$45 at door. Commonwealth Club, 595 Market, SF. 658-6602.

- 'Dana and Friends in A Little Bit of Country': Devero Productions presents Mr. & Miss Gay SF 1990 Nova Lei & Lady Bobette, Jose, Lana Davis & newcomer Miss Autumn Frost. 10 p.m. & 12 a.m. Donation benefits Continuum HIV Day Services. Kim's, Polk & Pine, SF. 885-4535.

- Performance at The Marsh: Lisa Geduldig's *Letters From Home* explores her identity as a short woman in the '90s. Josh Kornbluth's *The Moisture Seekers* is about sex. Marilyn Pittman covers hot topics from lesbian sex to trashy self-help books. 10:30 p.m. \$6. The Marsh at Cafe Beano, 878 Valencia/20th St., SF. 641-0235.

- Gay Comedy Night: Comics Tom Ammiano, Maureen Brownsey & Lisa Geduldig. 10 p.m. \$8. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St., SF. 861-7933.

- Comic Karen Ripley: Ripley's deadpan delivery & one-liners will knock you out. 8:30 p.m. \$4-8. Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore/Coffeehouse, 175 Stockton, San Jose. 293-9372.

Week

VISUAL ART & LECTURE

- Zoe Leonard:** In the small group of images comprising this exhibition by young New York-based lesbian artist Zoe Leonard, we are shown a complex interweaving of power and desire as these forces are played out through body adornment and ritual display. Artwork on view Apr. 17-June 29. Leonard will discuss her work Apr. 17 at 12 p.m. Matrix Gallery of the University Art Museum, 2625 Bancroft, Berkeley.

DANCE PERFORMANCE

- 'Remembering the Pool at the Best Western'**: The Joe Goode Performance Group melds dance, visual arts and theatre to create a dreamlike atmosphere loosely based on Goode's personal experience floating in a motel pool in Burbank. A performance about living in a floating culture that is bereft of any deep sense of inherited values from the past. Apr. 11-14 & 18-21 at 8:30 p.m. \$12-15. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida/17th St., SF. 627-7797.

LEATHER AFFAIRS

- Saram Break 91**: The National Leather Association/San Francisco Bay Area Chapter sponsors a conference Apr. 12-14 with workshops, demonstrations, exhibits, hospitality and opening/closing ceremonies for the leather/S/M/fetish community. \$75-85 includes brunch and buffet. Call Cirby, 255-5963.

INDEPENDENT FILM & VIDEO

- Artists' Television Access**: Presenting Azian Nurudin's video *What Do Pop Art, Pop Music, Pornography and Politics Have to Do With Real Life?*; Beth B's video with Lydia Lunch *Thanatopsis*; Julie Murray's Super-8 film *The Skin Seller*; Leslie Singer's video *Flipper*; Valeria Soe's video *Black Sheep*; and Aline Mare's video installation *Saline White Magick*. Apr. 13 at 8:30 p.m. \$5. 992 Valencia, SF. 824-3890.

- Women's Video for Older Lesbians & Their Friends: Two in Twenty (A Lesbian Soap Operal)**: At Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero, SF. 626-7000.

- SF Fringe Riders**: SF's only all-women's country/western dance troupe is looking for new members. Free dance clinic/open rehearsal 1:30-4:30 p.m. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission/11th St., SF. 564-6434.

- SF Hiking Club**: Briones Reservoir, Contra Costa County, 12-mile hike. Meet under big Safeway sign, Market & Dolores, SF, at 9:45 a.m. Riders split \$5 per car. Bring lunch, water. Jim, 285-3760.

MONDAY 15

- Third Eye**: Hot House music. Live Tarot readings under the disco lights & other specialties. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Nightbreak, 1821 Height, SF. 221-9008.

- Gay Comedy Open Mike**: Emcee Scott Capurro hosts performers who sign-up by phone by 7 p.m. Show 8 p.m. \$4. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St./Market, SF. 861-7933.

• Matthew Fox at Cody's Books: Fr. Fox, who in '88 was silenced by the Vatican for being a "fervent feminist" and not condemning homosexuality among other heresies, discusses his latest book, *Creation Spirituality: Liberating Gifts for the Peoples of the Earth*, a melding of Christian mysticism, social justice, feminism & environmentalism. 8 p.m. 2454 Telegraph, Berkeley. 845-7852.

• Partner Dancing Performing Group: Partners for Peace now accepting new dancers at various skill levels for upcoming performances. Open rehearsals, 7:10 p.m., at Studio 24, 3435 Army (old Sears Bldg.), SF. Gene. 621-8441.

TUESDAY 16

• Laura Chandler in Concert: An evening of original acoustic music at 8 p.m. Donation. Farley's Cafe, 1315 18th St./Missouri, SF. 648-1545.

• Women and AIDS: Fran Peavey will speak on life as an HIV+ woman as well as safe sex practices for lesbians. 7:30-9:30 p.m. MCC, 150 Eureka/18th St., SF.

• 'Under the Umbrella: Community Coalitions': Free lecture by leading medical researchers, discoverers & experts. 7 p.m. SF State's Creative Arts Bldg.'s Knuth Hall, 1600 Holloway, SF. 338-1373.

• 'Being Happy & Healthy: Claiming Your Natural Birthright': Lecture by Red Rose Naturals CEO Rinaldo Brutoco. 7:30 p.m. Free. Benefits AIDS Food Bank. Red Rose Gallerie, 2251 Chestnut, SF. 776-8029.



• 'Lawrence of Arabia': The 1962 adventure epic film stars Peter O'Toole as the enigmatic (gay) British officer, T.E. Lawrence. Apr. 14 at 2:10 & 7 p.m. Castro Theatre, Castro & Market, SF. 621-6120.

WEDNESDAY 17

• The Lion Pub: Wednesday is Macho Night with \$2 margaritas. Divisadero & Sacramento, SF. 567-6565.

• 'Generic Drugs': The "plain truth" about generic drugs & how useful they are by John Flaherty, Ph.D. 12-1 p.m. Free. UCSF Health Sciences Bldg., 513 Parnassus, Rm. 300, SF. 476-4394.

• 'Sexism & Racism in the Peace, Alternative Health & Ecology Movements': Talk by Wilmette Brown, author of *Black Women and the Peace Movement*. Wheelchair access, call for childcare. 7:30 p.m. \$4. SF Community College, 33 Gough, SF. 558-9622.

• Discovery, A Men's Discussion Group: Topic: "Misconceptions About Lesbians (with guests)" led by George Birimisa. 2:15 p.m. 333 Turk, 2nd fl., SF.

THURSDAY 18

• Reading by Barbara Anderson & Dorothy Allison: Literary reading at 1:30 p.m. Free SFSU, Blakeslee Rm. (Thornton Hall, Rm. 1000), 1600 Holloway, SF.

• 'Turning Conflict into Opportunity': Sponsored by the Women's Business Network. 6-9 p.m. \$10-20. 660 13th St., Oakland. 271-0165.

• Social & Mental Health Gay Male Options: Free discussion class thru May 30. Tonight's focus is on queer nationalism vs. heterosexual assimilation. 6:30 p.m. Everett Middle School, 450 Church/16th St., SF. Call 255-1042.

• 'Psychological Disturbance as a Spiritual Crisis': Lecture by Antonio Costa e Silva. 7-9 p.m. \$3-6. Planetary Health Resource Center, 2040 Webster, SF. 923-3680.

• Bay Area Bisexual Network Community Forum: Topic: "Personalizing Classism." 7:30-9 p.m. \$3-5. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin/Geary, SF. 564-BABN.

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ABT

(Continued from page 36)

ability to realize it in breathing, fleshy, human terms.

Disappointingly, in the new ABT *Coppelia*, the twisted doctor is reduced to a compulsive cane tapper and his workshop — home to mystery, magic and the imagination — becomes yet another extension of Disneyesque whimsy where cuteness envelopes the perverse. Still, all was not lost in the performance I saw (a barely half-full matinee), because ABT principal Wes Chapman, dancing the pivotal role of Franz, quite literally stole the show. It did, however, make me wonder why Chapman's talents are buried at a Saturday matinee? Chapman is an exquisite classicist (demonstrating sharp, clean beats and beautiful, floating jetés) and he is also something of

an imp. Chapman's Franz was a mime's delight, full of dramatic nuance and comic charm. Oddly (and by contrast), Cynthia Harvey's Swanilda seemed reserved and uninspired.

All told, this year's visit by Ballet Theatre was a triumph of confusion and unexpected possibility. The repertoire offered little that was new or creatively inspired, but the dancing — especially from the company's junior members — was crisp, buoyant and a pleasure to watch. ABT currently looks like a company that's cutting corners (and it is, given Baryshnikov's legacy of financial debt) and not looking, necessarily, any worse for the belt-tightening. Ballet Theatre also looks like a company that's not really sure whether it wants to serve cheeseburgers or something a little more artistically rich. That's the challenge of the future; that's the challenge for American classical dance. ▼

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B3

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E15

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E19

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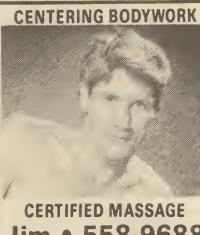
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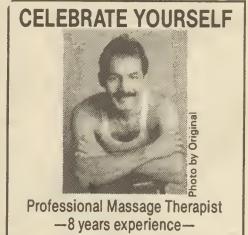
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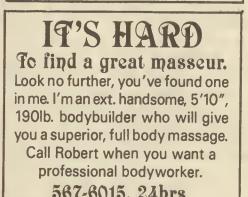
E15

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Boy wanted by GWM cpl in our 20s. GW Boy must be HIV-, clean-cut, eager to pls. EXT. 1563

Yng W/Latino for rltshp w/older man, 21-30yo, slim, smooth, fem OK. Me: 47yo, looks early 30s, 5'11, 165#, likes dancing, travel. Serious only. EXT. 1564

Retired, plain GAM, 50yo, HIV-sks little chubby GWM for sexual, social, spiritual joys, 40-65yo. Free massage. EXT. 1544

GWM, 58yo, 6'2, 195#, HIV, wishes to meet GM, uncut, under 35yo, for friendship & hopefully much more. EXT. 1545

It's a wonderful life. So is yours. Will that make it twice as wonderful? EXT. 1546

Hndsm, affectionate, sensual, romantic & sexy GWM, 5'11, 165#, w/gymnast's body, sks similar qualif, 25-40yo. EXT. 1547

Gdkng, clean-cut, collegiate type lkng for hot J/O buddies & voyeuristic opportunities. EXT. 1548

I'm lkng for a dark haired, thin guy who wants to get servd reg. I'm 37yo, 5'8, hairy, lite brn hair, grn eyes, husky & butch. EXT. 1549

Wanted: attrac 18-40yo son. Any man can be a father but it takes a special person to be a 67yo WM daddy. EXT. 1550

GWM, 40yo, 6'1, 180#, sincere, honest, healthy, sks love, loyalty, friendship, any race or age. EXT. 1551

Gay blk male, 226#, 6'1, lkng for a phone buddy. EXT. 1552

Hot WM, 45yo, wants to lick, sniff, probe firm, round butts on in-shape, trim men. Vers & ready. EXT. 1553

Live-in space for bald or fat, 250#, HIV- WM. We're 40/50yo, GW/AM. Self-love, spirited, open-minded sks same. EXT. 1554

Dig watching porno & getting super head from a hot guy? If you're 21-40yo, gdkng & music, give me a try! EXT. 1555

I'm a great cksucker. Like to be watched & talked to, verbal A+. Only big dicks so tell this 37yo, 5'8 man what to do. EXT. 1556

Suck my thick prick while I shave a dildo up your butt. Dominant man, 35yo, 5'9, 150#, wants oral serv from in-shape younger guy. EXT. 1557

GWM, 25yo, sks same for fun & rltshp. I'm social, 5'10, brn eyes, 135#. My age range: 18-25yo GWM. EXT. 1558

Boy wanted. No experience necessary. Big brother will support nice kid. EXT. 1559

Hot Itlan tongue sks guys w/bubble butts for serious oral serv on reg basis. Castro loc. EXT. 1550

Huge balls need oral serv. Me: cute GWM, 39yo, 200#, 6'5. You: cute GWM, 21-35yo. Call now. EXT. 1561

Vers, gym-toned, hung GWM sks in-shape, hung GWM, top/btm/vers, singles/cpls, for endurance fkng. EXT. 1562

WM, 6'3, 170#, HIV, hairy, sks Asian tops to suck. Me: 34yo, You: under 35yo. EXT. 1585

Musc WM, 31yo, in torn skivies, spreads bubble-butt for voyeurs. Window scenes/outdoor fun. Dirty talk A+. EXT. 1586

Hot 37yo btm sks top men for long, hard sessions. Uncut A+. EXT. 1587

GWM, top, 30yo, masc, hndsm, beard, hairy chest, 5'9, stocky, HIV+, sks masc, hairy btm, Gr/p, hairy ass. EXT. 1588

Attrac 25yo LM stud. Smooth, hot-looking & tight hole. Sks very strong WM/Bi, ex-hung, cut A+, 20-26yo, for friendship, boyfriend, in SF-SJ+. EXT. 1589

Gdkng, 30s, HIV+, wants similar guy for steamy asplay & raunchy exploration. EXT. 1543

Hot, hndsm, hairy, healthy, HIV+, E Bay WM, 6', 155#, bl/gr, 38yo, sks hot, hung top. Be quality & real. EXT. 1590

Strictly oral! Gdkng WM, 40s, 5'9, 160#, brn/brn, 7" cut, likes to give layed back serv to hndsm, big, husky men, BBs, beards, ave size A+. EXT. 1591

Do my face & then my butt. Itlan, 40yo, 6', 200#, needs reg butt sessions w/experd, hot men. EXT. 1592

GBM, 38yo, good bod, sks GWM top for good times. I'm Gr/p, Fr/a. You: Gr/a, Fr/p, big bod, mutual drink & party. EXT. 1583

Athletic GWM, 6'1, 170#, 49yo, HIV+, top, sks mouthful, unjaded, trim, Latino/Mediterranean/Arabic btm. EXT. 1584

Hot Itlan tongue sks guys w/bubble butts for serious oral serv on reg basis. Castro loc. EXT. 1606

In Las Vegas Apr. 24-26, lkng for hung top WM. I'm 5'8, 32yo, 8'. Lay back, let me work over your dick, balls & crotch. EXT. 1607

Asian guys, let's play passionately, play w/each other. Me: GWM, 40yo, 5'3, loving top, hairy. EXT. 1608

Gdkng WM, 5'11, hung big, has 8" & hungry tongue for well built, hairy WM, 20-40yo, well hung w/hairy, hungry bubble butt. EXT. 1609

Need big top for hot buns. I have big raincoats or condoms. Let's have a circus, any man. I can BJ the rod. EXT. 1610

Hndsm blk btm, 32yo, 6', 170#, sks GWM, 30s, masc, hairy, for hot, long, safe sessions. EXT. 1611

Gdkng blk Berkeley male, 38yo, heavy-set, friendly, clean, gives BJ to masc, young, fit men. No reciprocation necessary. EXT. 1612

Forty & fit, gdkng dad wants younger boy for fun. Top only. No drugs. Macho & clean. EXT. 1581

Trim, smooth, easy, fun GWM, 38yo, HIV+, sks blue collar working man for porno 69 love & emotion. Latino A+. EXT. 1582

Due to systems errors at the phone company that intermittently interrupted service last week, all BARTALK ads that appeared in B.A.R. No. 14 dated April 4 and No. 15 dated April 11 will run for two extra weeks.

Attrac GWM btm, sks dominant, light-weight GWM tops. I'm 5'11, 157#, dark brn hair/eyes, 34yo. You: under 5'11 & 150#, hairy A+. I need punching, spanking, torturing & humiliating. EXT. 1613

23yo, hndsm, athletic dude w/hot butt, 6'2, 180#, sks other big studly guys for intense romps, esp tops. EXT. 1614

Sir, yes sir. Attrac WM, 34yo, 5'11, 165#, br/bl, reporting for hot sex duty with attrac, masc, military type. EXT. 1593

Gdkng, vers WM, 5'11, well-built, hairy, wants same: 20-40yo, tight, hairy buns with big cock drives me nuts. EXT. 1594

Kickboxing fantasy, WM, 44yo, hairy, 'stache, thick, strong legs, sks Asians into gloved, barefoot challenge. EXT. 1595

Asian wants to sk & serv hot Asians. Nites or weekends. EXT. 1596

Hot Itlan ex-football jock needs reg oral serv from hungry & experd cksers. All considered. EXT. 1597

Massage, long & firm, wanted by hndsm, trim, smooth, friendly Asian guy by masseur or bodyworker. EXT. 1598

In Oakland: loud & nasty mutual dirty talk & J/O for hours while drinking/partying. Share resources. EXT. 1599

North Bay slut needed by this hot, hndsm stud. I'm 6'1, 179#, vers, 31yo w/hairy chest, 32"waist. EXT. 1604

Itlan male, 28yo, 'stache, slim, sks Latins, 20-30yo, for friendship, hot dates, rltshp. P Ricans A+. EXT. 1605

Boy wanted by leather daddy (title-holder). Must give good head. Gr BD, FF poss. One nite OK but rltshp better. EXT. 1580

Asians, Latinos & Arabs serviced artistically by gdkng BiWM, 40s. Must be 18-35, attrac, w/good body. EXT. 1565

Lkng for huge, hung top, any race. I'm attrac, 30yo, 5'4, 137#, w/out buns, tight hole. Rltshp poss. Sks 10"+. EXT. 1566

Clean-cut biker, 30yo, 6'1, br;br, non-smkr, ex-marine, sks masc, cute GWM under 25yo in cycle jacket. EXT. 1567

Very hndsm, hot, 30yo GWM athlete, 5'9, 155#, 7" cut thick, needs gdkng, uncut GWM/GLM to 35yo for steamy, safe sex J/O. EXT. 1568

Masc WM sks erotic Asian bondage master. Safe, sane, sensual, serious spanking. EXT. 1569

Attrac French, 35yo, sexy/fit, swimmer's body, 29w, hung, lkng for GLM/GLM, gym-toned only w/small waist. Poss rltshp. EXT. 1570

Bondage & full-body massage by exper'd male wanted by hndsm athletic, smooth Asian male. EXT. 1571

Married BiWM, 36yo, 6', 8"+, hot Itlan sks hot mouth for very deep, prolonged action. Your place only. EXT. 1572

Over the knee spanking. Me: cute GWM, 39yo, 6'5, 200#. You: cute GWM, 21-35y, w/out buns. Call EXT. 1573

HIRSUTE? TRIM? Need reg deep throat to swallow/choke on soft/hard 8", curved slightly downward. EXT. 1574

23yo Pretty Boy, 5'11, 160#, bl/bl, runner's build, lkng for intimacy & hot sex w/men over 25yo. EXT. 1575

Asians only. Hot massage & more. Oral expert. Days & eves. EXT. 1576

Hot exhibitionist? Oral worship for young, trim, E Bay guys by tall, slim, masc, yng, gdkng, clean-shvn, expert ckskr. EXT. 1577

Boys of Summer! Asian pretty boys desired by masc, very gdkng, 6', 175#, brn hair/green eyed guy. EXT. 1578

Are there any extra-super hung guys out there who like to be deep throat by a great btm? Call me. EXT. 1579

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Ass massage & lite spank. Me: cute GWM, 39yo, 6'5, 200#. You: cute GWM, 21-35yo, w/nice buns. Call now. EXT. 1601

Boot licking cksucker sks verbal cowboy w/hot meat to pump extra tight, hairy bubble butt. EXT. 1602

All I want is to be on my knees w/a big dick in my mouth. Talking dirty is A+. I'm 37yo, 5'8, hairy, husky. EXT. 1603

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People and Personals

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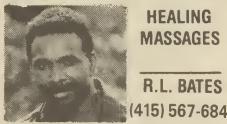
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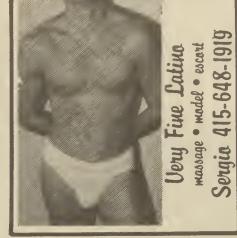
Firm & relaxing massage. Very
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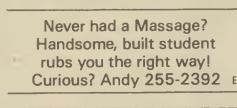
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Hot oil massage by hunky dude

w/low hangers. Rock solid,

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I'm 6'1", 195lbs., extra-handsome

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This work is a rare blend of skill, knowledge and ex-

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\$40-1hr. \$50-1½ hrs. \$60-2hrs.

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People and Personal Ads

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Videos/hot massage
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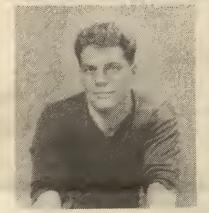
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Sweet, deep, sensual. Alex,
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Anoint Your Body with Oils and
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through intuitive, nurturing massage
and strong, loving and caring hands.

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1½hrs./\$40 • 7 7 1 - 1 7 2 8

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ARC/PWAs Welcome / Sliding Scale

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GREAT MASSAGE

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Will give total body massage
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24hrs. Mark E18

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I'm a very defined,
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One-of-a-kind-Man

When you need a
friendly hand, a warm
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6', 195, nude, erotic
Swedish hot lotion rub.
Experienced

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Very Handsome Ex-Football
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SATISFYING

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- STRONG, NURTURING TOUCH
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\$40 • Jim
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Asian American Masseur
Certified, \$50/\$60. 285-9019 E37

MODELS & ESCORTS



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FINAL WEEK!

Get it before it's gone.
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You Name It
I'm handsome, mature
trim, professional dude
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Very Private Practice

BUTT DOCTOR
Clean Cut Creative Safe Sane
sensual no job too big or too
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28, smooth & muscular for
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27 YRS. NAKED
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Anytime u want it!
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Gdkg, hairy, 8½", verbal
IRISH STUD
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w/clean cut guy, safe and
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Hawaiian Hunk



Pete 544-1114

People and Personals

MODELS & ESCORTS



Ram Photo 553-8179

Franco 864-5066

Hot Boy David Ph. # 563-5637

E18

Heavy hung thik 6'4" blond hard body big balls 821-3425.

E15

HOTELS ONLY

Hot yng blond ready & hot hand-some good looking stud ent. best out call service very discreet hung & ready for your top or bottom lust. No time limit. Love older men.

Out only.

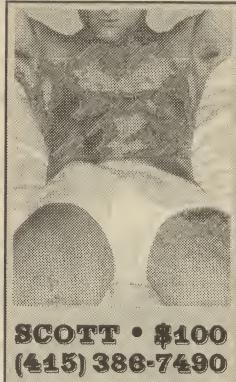
531-1165, \$65 JAMIE

Never in a rush

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Swimmer—Clean, Soft, Lean, Thick. Alvin 567-7587.

221-9943 Likes GM Attnion
ATHLETIC BISEX'L



**SCOTT • \$100
(415) 386-7490**

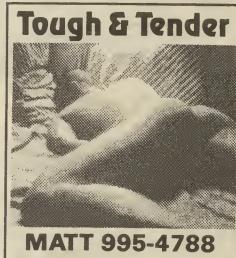


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Harbour Studios 521-1493

WOLF • 753-6539

CALL BACK REQUIRED



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MATT 995-4788

LEATHER TOP MAN
Sling, toys, F/F, TT, B/D, butch, dirty blond, 5'9", 175, mustch, 37. Let me stretch and expand your experiences. 15 yrs exp. Andy 861-2668, \$70.

E15

Skatepunk (cute)
Yng, fun & hung
Dexter 541-5024

E16

FF, TT, B/D, TOYS

Gloves, kinky. Andy, husky, 5'9", 175, blond, must. 861-2668, \$70. sling safe, exp.

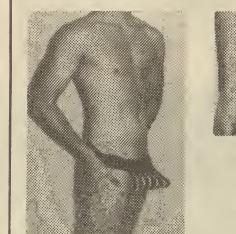
E15

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CALVIN KLEIN**
Model, 26yrs, 9", thick, round buns, rock-solid
864-0788 Ryan

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Imagine yourself tied spread-eagle—
there's a short, hot bodybuilder top with some... unusual devices. You hurt so good you don't know whether to shoot or go blind! Safe? Hell, yes! Creative? Explore the boundaries of pleasure, pain, and sensuality with a stable, built, experienced sadist. ROGER, 864-5566.

—Real S&M in a safe place—



DOUBLE WHAMMY!
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Irish Boy Next Door, 25, 5'10", 160, 42c, 30w, 7½" c.
Really digs attention
Skip 821-0265
Check it out.

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Tender to Raunchy,
Your Pleasure is My Command,
Sir. Tight, musc., trim body.
Blond/blu surfer-look, sexy, oral,
bottom. \$100 in/out.

BRAD 861-2394

CUTE & ROMANTIC
TEDDY BEAR
Hdsm & Masculine Latino Guy, 26, Smooth Swimmer's Build, 5'7", 140lbs, delicious buns, passionate & versatile.
Let my hands relax
& please you.
CARLOS 465-0231
\$50 in \$65 out 24 hrs.

E19

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Dominant young stud. Into tough dirty talk and safe scenes. Open minded. Gorgeous mega-thick hose! Who loves being a top.
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Buddy \$85 626-8535



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Hung 9" and the hottest!

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LONGXXXTHICK
Healthy, clean and sober, 30 yrs.
9" x 7", extremely handsome,
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Perfect Top, \$100in/\$125out
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Hot Hung Ready 821-3228

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PERFECTLY HUNG STUD MEATY 9" TOOL

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JOHN 979-6898

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN



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Hot, gdlkg, rockhard muscles & athletic legs. Vers, healthy, yng, hung, tall Marine type.

Anytime. No BS.

Dan 753-8604

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Ital. Stallion br/b 5'8"
fat tool-stud looks-built.
Jonny \$80, 567-2949

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Call Todd 995-4745

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S/M Domination Etc.
24 yr. old Master
Smooth Skin
Well Built / Will Train
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OLEATHER, LATEX,
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AND OTHER
MALE-ORIENTED
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8oz. Gel-Only \$5!

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CUSTOM Leather
Pants & Chaps
That Fit Like a
Glove!Present this ad and
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in the store. Offer
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(JACKING OFF ONLY)

★ Take part with the Safe Playing Guys at the cleanest club in town. Attended by the friendliest staff.

Imagine your favorite type of sex partner — hot, hard and hung — in his birthday suit! Well, imagine or come see for yourself where all the hot men traveling around the country stop while in SF.

NOTE: 1808 is a private club for J/O artists and includes the body-conscious man. Washboard stomachs, masculine looks, etc. We have a full clothes check system. Great videos and music nightly.

— 1808 MARKET STREET —

★ DON'T COME LATE

We have carefully developed
the early bird crowd.

DOORS OPEN at 8:00 sharp.

8 PM-1 AM DAILY/3 AM FRI & SAT
WHERE THE MEN ARE!

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the National Leather Association launches their first big function this weekend, April 12-14, with Scream Break, a plethora of parties, workshops, a Cirby art show, brunches, lunches, buffets, a dance and many demonstrations.

If you're an NLA member, the fee is \$75 and if you're not, it's \$85 payable by cashier's check or money order. And yes, they will take cash.

Friday, April 12, registration begins at 2000 until 2300 at the SF Eagle where there's also a beer/soda bust (\$8) going on with demonstrations and the art show. There's a dungeon party afterward at a location which will be announced that night. A highlight here is the mummification of an area title holder as a dinner table upon which the buffet will be served! And the sweet, quiet, demure Ann West will be doing the mummifying. I can't wait!

Saturday, April 13 (everything at the Women's Building), a continental breakfast from 0930 followed by workshops for novices on health issues and SM play, spirituality, substance abuse and SM. A flea market will be in progress all day as well with the day culminating in a dance from 2000-2400 at Thunderdome. Another dungeon party with info available that night.

Sunday, April 14, again at the Women's Bldg., a brunch from 1030 to 1230, demos, workshops until 1630 and a closing social wrap-up with a buffet until 1830. All this, a dog tag and a coupon book heaped on the dazzling presence of the co-chairs Darryl Haven and Rena Davis — what more could you ask for? If you can't

ly (and especially disappointing to me), Supervisors Achtenberg, Britt and Migden didn't bother to show up! The performance was without a flaw and I'm sure the AIDS agencies who will benefit are extremely thankful.

Mr. Drummer '85 Steve Reiswig is among the many conferees and the new Mr. Washington State Leather Wes Randall is expected to attend. If you need more info, call 255-5963. It's bound to be a great event, so I hope you can all attend.

★ ★ ★

It was jumping around this playground last week. Tuesday night, April 2, the B.A.R.'s 20th anniversary benefit with ABT at the Opera House was a glittery affair. Everyone was dressed to the nines and VIPs from all sectors of the city were there, including my favorite politician, San Mateo Supervisor Tom Nolan. Surprising-



Michael "Bucko" Fiumara won the Mr. May '91 spot on the Bare Chest Calendar last Thursday; here with runner-up Lewis Johnson (no relation to Mitch Johnson).
(Photo: Marcus)



Emperor Michael and Empress Caresse were invested as the reigning monarchs in San Francisco last Saturday night.
(Photo: Marcus)

the runner-up position. I don't know if Michael is a masochist or not, but all evening he kept repeating, "My leather jock is killing me." Mr. June 1992 will be selected next Thursday, April 18. It's nice to see such quality chests showing up for the competition.

Our newly elected emperor and empress (Michael and Caresse) seem to be getting their reign off to a good start. Saturday night, April 6, saw a whole lot of camp at their investiture in the Green Room of the War Memorial Bldg. Nice crowd showed up — crowns galore, stiff wigs, medals, pins and mucho, mucho gold lame. Bill Rolls stood out as one of the most beautiful drag queens. Dowager Empress Flame was not to be believed as a half leather/half North American Indian prince (or was it princess?). Michael and Caresse came on stage in night clothes and as the interlude progressed, various royalty figures literally dressed them — Michael in white boxer shorts emblazoned with No, No, No messages. It was fun and campy and The Glamazonas were just perfect. As usual, Dowager Empress Pat Montclaire was glamorous too. Best wishes for a fun and profitable reign to Michael and Caresse.

Much fun and games at the Eagle beer bust on Sunday, with lots of people arriving for the NLA's Scream Break, adding credibility to the old adage that the early bird(s) gets the worm(s).

UPDATE: You'll be glad to know that the Illustrated Men party at the Lone Star Saloon on March 30 netted \$134 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Last weekend, the National Tattoo Association convened in Anaheim with 4,000 artfully decorated people in attendance.

What's shaking around the campus in days ahead besides the Scream Break?

Check this out:

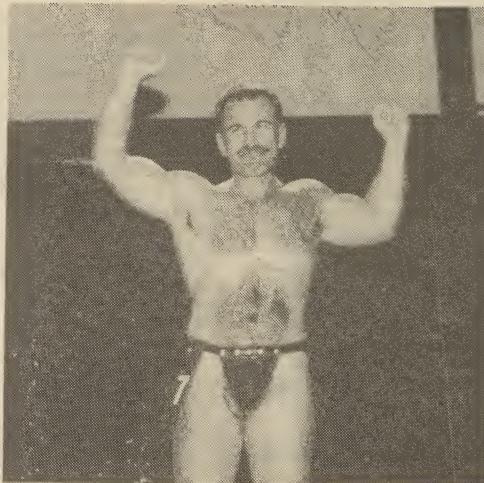
Friday, April 12: If you find yourself in Montreal, they're holding the Mr. Leather of Montreal contest on Saturday night with pre- and post-contest activities. IML '88 Michael Pereyra will serve as one of the judges and now that he's single, he says he's looking forward to meeting all those French Canadian dudes.

Art Extravaganza Sale today, Saturday and Sunday at the Lone Star Saloon with works by Snowflake, Jim Leff, Mad Dog and Ross to name a few, Febe's and Ambush memorabilia. And 20 percent of all sales go to the AIDS Emergency Fund and Project Open Hand. It's 20 years of SOMA artistry, so check out the material.

Saturday, April 13: Mr. Long Beach Leather contest at Mike's Corral in No. Long Beach tonight. It's free and last year's winner, Sam Catalano 'tis rumored, will run for the title again! I was invited to be a judge two months ago, so that's where I'll be this weekend.

The SMILE softball team hosts the beer bust at the Lone Star today for only \$5 from 1500-1900. Always a good deal.

Mr. Northern California Drummer contest in Fresno tonight at C's Dance Club beginning at 2100. The place will only hold 225 people, so get there early. Admission is \$10. The next day, there's a 99-cent brunch at the same place. This is a function of the Knights of Malta so call (209) 229-3394 for details and/or tickets.



Sam Catalano, Mr. Long Beach Leather '90, will try again this weekend for the title at Mike's Corral in No. Long Beach, Saturday, April 13.

(Photo: Marcus)

Someone near and dear to me is celebrating a birthday tonight with a surprise party, so if that person reads this, know I'm sorry I'm missing the party and if life begins at 40, you should be well prepared for what's ahead. I'll tell you who the lucky person is next week.

Sunday, April 14: Door prizes, entertainment and dinner for only \$15 at The Cove on

Castro this evening with seatings at 1800, 1900 and 2000 by Solange, of course. To benefit Project Open Hand. Hope you can make it.

Golden Gate Men's Chorus hosts the Eagle beer bust today, the usual time, and I presume the usual price. It wasn't mentioned in their press release. Needless to say,

(Continued on next page)



Wes Randall, Mr. Washington State Leather '91, will attend Scream Break this weekend.

(Photo: Marcus)

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Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

they'll perform for you so hoist those beer mugs and freak freely. Chuckie Benz will be most appreciative if you show up.

Other dates: Bay Area Brigade of American Uniform Ass'n meeting at 1900 at the Galleon from 1900-2300, Friday, April 19. Dinner afterward if you choose. Call Ed LeClair for more info at 435-9948.

Black & Tans Uniform Club in Los Angeles, weekend of April 26-28. Mucho, mucho spiffiness. More details on this one later.

SF Eagle 10th Anniversary celebration, April 22-24. Monday is Eagle Pin night (only to customers with a previous anniversary pin); Tuesday they're giving away 300 T-shirts; Wednesday, buffet and show at 2000 with Gail Wilson, City Swing and Deena Jones. Don't miss it. There's more coming your way, so hang in there.

The Dish-Cus Thrower

Here's your chance to win a round-trip ticket to International Mr. Leather in Chicago on Memorial Day Weekend. Jacques (The Tireless One) Michaels, So. Bay Leather Daddy's Boy, is again offering \$1 raffle tickets (or 6 for \$5) with round-trip airfare, reserved seat and hotel accommodations! In addition, there are numerous runner-up prizes (\$50 already worth over \$1000) from virtually every business in town. Proceeds for the SF Women's Bldg., Rita Rockett Brunches at SF General and the South Bay Billy deFrank

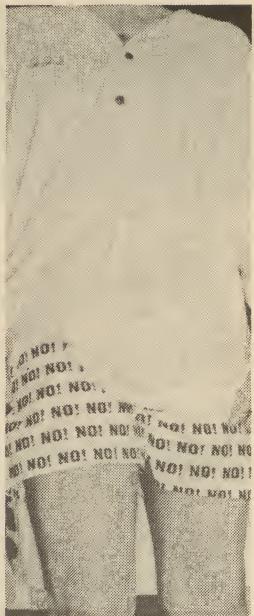
Center.

The raffle tickets are available at Stormy Leather on Howard, Mercury Mail Order on 18th and at all Mister S stores. The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday, May 12, at the Eagle beer bust (thank you Constantines MC). They'll also be on sale at the Mr. Leather of SF contest at the Victoria Theatre on April 20. Buy a dozen.

Kitchen fire at Rox in Palm Springs last week, but out of commission for only a couple of days. Some 40 SF dudes were down there last week and rave about the great hospitality at the El Mirasol Villa and agreed unanimously that the best bar in Palm Springs is Shades. Check it out, I say. Check it out. With the desert flowers in bloom and the dudes and dudettes in bloom as well, it should be, uh, enticing? Thanks, Spunk.

The judges for Mr. Leather of SF contest were announced this week. They are the outgoing Mr. Leather of SF Ray Tilton, *Drummer Magazine's* Tony DeBlase, Leather Daddy '89 Jay Smith and IMsL No. 1, Judy Tallwing McCarthy. I think I'm in there somewhere too. Tickets are going fast (at all Mister S stores), so you better get yours real soon. Helen Ruvelas will be the tallymaster and Audrey Joseph is producing. Sharon McNight, Bobby Wong and Friends and Miguel Gutierrez are just part of the entertainment.

In closing, I received this cryptic message: "The Leather Monarch Butterfly from South of Los Angeles will be landing in San Francisco soon and plans to alight on one of SFO's sweet tulips."



The Imperial knees and shorts of Emperor Michael before they dressed him.

(Photo: Marcus)

Closing with this one and resuming again after all these years — Ta Da! The return of the closing limerick:

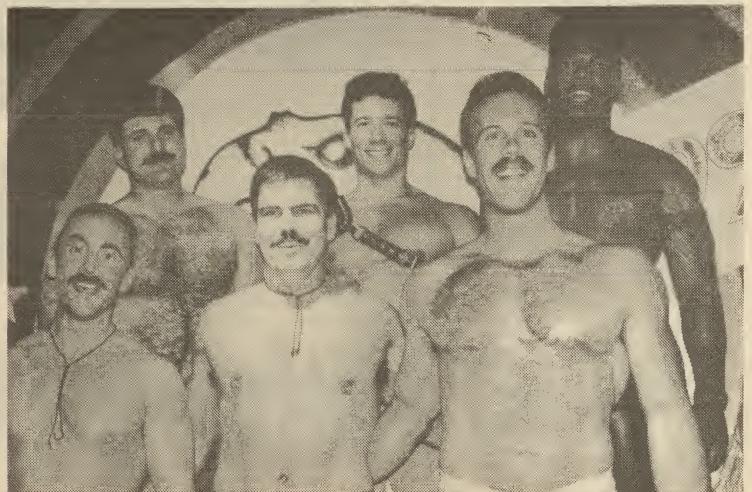
There was a young fellow named Rock/ Who was born with a two-headed cock./ When he'd fondle the thing/ It would rise up and sing/ An antiphonal chorus by Bach.

Hang in there. Be generous with the charities of your choice and make sure you're wearing leather when you're on the playground. ▼



Bill Rolls and Lady Herman among the glitterati at the Imperial Investiture last Saturday night.

(Photo: Marcus)



Six heavenly chests at the Mr. May '92 contest at the Eagle last Thursday, April 4.

(Photo: Marcus)

SWEET LIPS

A Word to the Wise

Well it seems as if the Over Pass not only has our Empress Marlene on the plank, but that very popular Danny Marsch (aka Mitzie) is now doing his thing there, too.

And of course they also have the cute Tony (aka Anthony) at different times, so give the Over Pass a try.

The Company on California Street has hired as of the 15th of this month the very popular Bob Tangway (aka Bo Peep) who has returned to us from Florida. We'll be seeing you soon, Bobby.

Jackie for Miss Gay Pride '91. You can find Jackie on the plank of the Yacht Club on Polk Street. This is a fundraiser for the Gay Freedom Day Parade with raffle tickets at \$1, with lots of great prizes including a 19-inch TV.

By the time this issue comes out, my good friend Danny Woodland should be out of the hospital, where he has been for the last two weeks. He should be well on

the road to recovery. Hope the peanuts lasted, Danny.

Welcome Home, that popular Castro eating spot, has been redone by the fabulous Bella Boche, and it certainly looks great, so when hungry (at any time) give it a whirl.

And don't forget the Circle J Cinema at 369 Ellis St. still shows some of the best hot gay films in town — and it is only \$7 and clean and safe.

Wayne Friday, I heard that you and Andy Rodriguez had a fabulous time on your cruise and that you plan on going again. Glad to hear it.

Tom Morgan of the Swallow, how do you keep looking so hot? A lot of people want your secret recipe.

John of the Polk Gulch Saloon, this is to let you know that you are doing a great job on your morning shifts, and I am sure that Steve does appreciate you as much as we customers do.

Hey, Kenny Allison of the Kokpit, I want you to know that we had a great time with Dingy Don the other day —



Nifty at 90, Jack Koret (left), was a knock-out at the Imperial Investiture in the Green Room last Saturday night. With him is the smoothie, Jimmy Quinn.

(Photo: Marcus)

even though you were missed.

Yes, Don Rogers of Ginger's Too on beautiful downtown 6th Street still has the fabulous and lovely Beverly doing dinners on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday nites. And of course her great Sunday brunches. So do give

them a try.

The new *PS is becoming one of the nicest drinking spots on Polk Street. It's a very pleasant atmosphere, so drop in and have a cocktail sometime.

Last Sunday, everyone headed out to Colma for Jose's annual visit to Emperor

Norton's grave. A good time was had by all.

Incidentally, all bartenders should be very careful about checking IDs as the ABC is checking out a lot of Polk Street bars lately. A word to the wise should be sufficient. When in doubt, ask. ▼

Symphony

(Continued from page 38)

tration than interpretation. The Schuman was altogether successful.

As the executive force behind such institutions as Lincoln Center and the Juilliard School, Schuman is in some danger of being overlooked as a composer. His music does bear a certain academic air, but he is also a solid craftsman and a writer of almost patrician serenity. The Sixth Symphony is somewhat static at times, though there are moments of high drama — supplied mainly by some exciting percussion effects. De Waart gave a balanced and propulsive reading, the orchestra, especially strings, sounding assured and involved.

Alicia De Larrocha is known as a pianist of surprising power, despite her tiny physical appearance, and as an artist of taste and delicacy. Her "Emperor" Concerto performance was marred at times by missed notes, muddy passage work and some faulty tone. Still it was a notable reading — mostly because we feel great affection toward her and one can easily recall more successful appearances. She is getting older, to be sure, but it hasn't put a dapper on her professionalism.

Race

(Continued from page 40)

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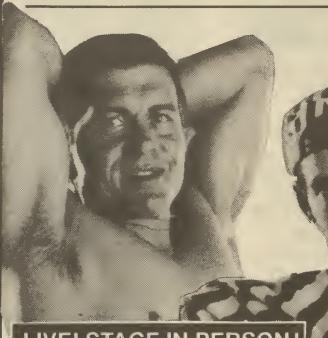
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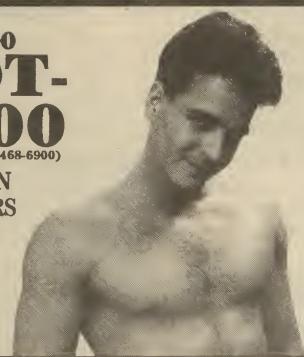


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